MADRAS *Information*

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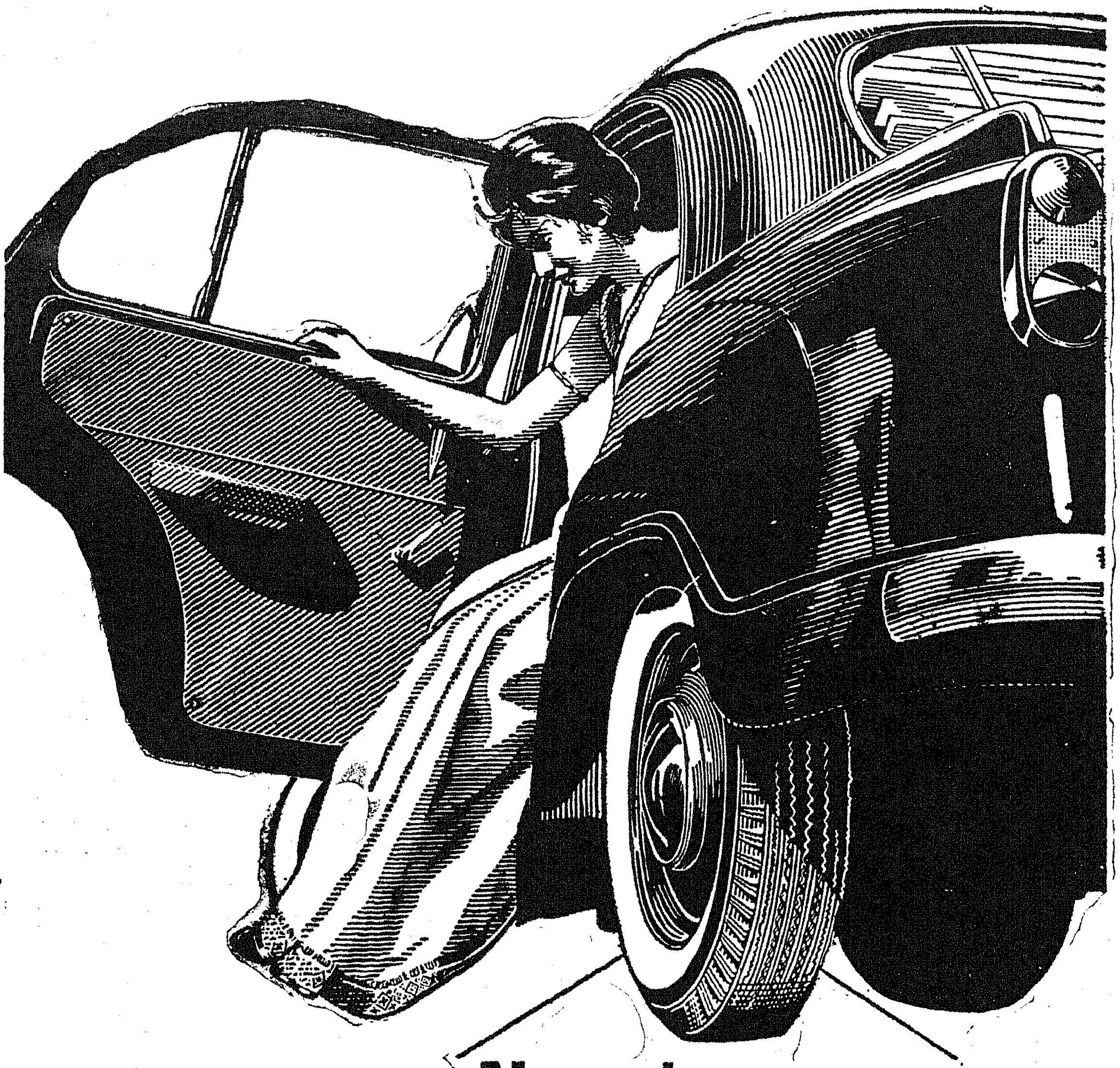
CONTENTS

PAGE

1. The Need for the Promotion of Small Savings. — *Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister.* 3
2. Development of Farm and Fuel Forestry. 6
3. The Grandeur of Courtallum 7
4. Progress of Public Health .. .. 11 — *Smt. Jothi Vencatachellum, Minister for Public Health.*
5. Panchayati Raj in a Democratic Republic. — *Sri V. S. Subbiah, I.A.S., Collector, South Arcot.* 13
6. A New Approach to Indian Gazetteers. — *Professor Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals.* 16
7. Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation's Work. 19
8. Indian International Trade and Industries Fair at Madras. 21
9. Andaman Islands: A Paradise for Holiday Makers. 23
10. Warehousing in India .. .. .. 25 — *Sri C. S. Ramachandran, I.C.S., Managing Director, Central Warehousing Corporation.*
11. Aluminium Utensils manufacture .. 29
12. Leisure-time Activities of Teenagers and University Students. 31

THIS MONTH'S COVER:

With the onset of the first rains in July, the sowing season commences in Madras State. It is the period when the seeds are sown in the prepared soil and the seedlings are transplanted. It is also the season when saplings of fruit-bearing and other trees are planted. India celebrates this season as Vanamahotsava. Here are three little ones participating in this festival.



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The Need for the Promotion of Small Savings

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM,
Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister of Madras sometime back convened a meeting of the representatives of the Chambers of Commerce, Trade Union leaders and the members of the State Advisory Board and City Savings Committee and made an appeal to them to help to promote Small Savings in the State.

The Small Savings movement plays an important part in mobilisation of resources for economic development. Our State has been able to record significant progress in several sectors in the last decade. This tempo of progress has been well maintained in the current Plan period and the outlay on the Plan is now expected to exceed appreciably the original Plan provision of Rs. 291 crores. We have been able to fulfil a larger Plan without any increase in Central assistance and this has been possible because we have done better than expected in regard to mobilisation of resources for the Plan. Apart from the buoyancy of taxes at the existing rates we have secured larger resources than targetted under additional taxation, open market borrowings and miscellaneous capital receipts.

There is however one important head under which our performance has fallen short of original anticipations, and that is Small Savings. In our forecast of resources for the Third Five-Year Plan, we had taken credit for Rs. 20 crores as our share of Small Savings collections, and as the State's share is generally two-thirds of the total collections, this meant an overall collection of Rs. 30 crores or a little under Rs. 10 per capital for the five-year period. This was by no means an ambitious or unrealistic target. During the last two years, we have set up a special machinery for attending to the work relating to Small Savings and a measure of progress has been recorded. Even so, by the end of 1964–65 our share of Small Savings collections aggregates only to about Rs. 13 crores. Even though it will not be possible for us to make up for the shortfall in full in the remaining year of the Plan. We should redouble our efforts and try to bridge the gap to the maximum possible extent. When many other States like Maharashtra, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have done well in this field, there is no reason why we should not also succeed if we make determined efforts and bring to bear on this task the same spirit of dedication and devotion which we have displayed in other spheres of activity.

Our efforts

It is because I felt that influential sections of organised public opinion like Chambers of Commerce, Trade Unions, etc., have got a great part to play in making such an effort, that I have thought fit to discuss with them and make a formal appeal for their co-operation in tapping the vast potential for Small Savings, particularly in the City.

In 1962 we had, through a special meeting of the City Savings Advisory Committee, made a strong appeal to the Industrialists of the Madras City to encourage Pay Roll Savings Scheme among their employees. But the Scheme has not made any considerable headway

RURAL DEBENTURES

The Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank Limited, is floating Rural Debentures. The debentures will be available in the denomination of Rs. 100 and above. At present the debentures will be issued up to a total value of Rs. 9,50,000. The amount is repayable after 7 years. The debentures will carry an interest of Rs. 6.25 per cent per annum payable in two instalments. The interests will be calculated every six months and the interest warrants will be sent to the subscribers on the 1st October and 1st April every year.

The Government of Madras guarantees the repayment of the principal and the interest raised through these debentures. Loans also will be given to the subscribers on these debentures. The debenture is transferable. The fee for transfer is only 25 Paise per debenture up to a maximum of Rs. 2·50.

The application forms for subscriptions for these debentures may be had from the Primary Land Mortgage Banks or in any other Co-operative Bank of the respective area.

among labour, either in Madras City or other centres of industrial importance like Madurai and Coimbatore. The organised industrial labour has been among the important beneficiaries of our economic plans. It may not be seriously controverted that the level of wages in industry has registered an impressive increase in recent years. It should be the endeavour of those interested in labour to divert a portion at least of this increased earnings for investment in one or other of the many forms of Small Savings. It is only through inculcating in labour the systematic habit of thrift that we can bring about a permanent improvement in their economic status. I would therefore appeal to the representatives of the Chambers of Commerce assembled here to help us to form Pay Roll Savings Groups in factories and other organisations with which they are connected. I would also request you to impress on your members the need to activise such groups where they exist, with a view to obtain full coverage. It is only through such well-organised Pay Roll Savings Groups that we can step up the investments in Small Savings. Though Pay Roll Savings Groups have been started in many establishments they are by and large not being maintained because of ineffective follow-up work.

I have also a special request to make to my friends from the Trade Union Movement. They may have differences of opinion about the adequacy of particular level of wages. There is always scope for improvement in a dynamic economy. But the trade union leaders will agree with me that whatever be the level of wages, it is in the interests of labour to save a little, and save systematically, out of their income. It is only through such regular savings that our labourers can move up in the social ladder and the Pay Roll Savings Scheme is the best and most convenient method of such regular savings. It is also bound to be the most acceptable form of Small Savings as the amount is deducted at source and labour will not feel the privation to the same extent as under other form of savings. The promotion of the Pay Roll Savings Movement among their constituents should therefore rank high among the various constructive activities of the trade unions. Labour leadership in Madras is always progressive and constructive in its approach and I would request them to give a lead in this matter. I would also like to reiterate a request which I have made on a number of other occasions in the past, namely, that a portion of the lump-sum payments made to labour in the form of bonus should be invested wisely. Our efforts so far to secure such diversion of even small amount out of the bonus amounts paid have not been very successful. This again is a programme in which the management, trade union leaders and officers of the Labour department should all-co-operate and secure results. We had in 1960–61 sold prize bonds on a large scale among industrial labour with the co-operation of management and trade union leaders. These prize bonds have fallen due for repayment on 1st April 1965 and the least we should do is to try to get a significant portion of the amounts falling due for repayment re-invested in other forms of Small Savings Securities.

Popularising Savings Habit

I would also request the management to use their influence among the staffs under their control and popularise the Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme among them. This scheme will serve the needs of middle-class salary earners admirably. The Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme opened after April 1965 will earn tax-free bonus at maturity in addition to maturity value. Cumulative Time Deposit rules have been amended providing for a bonus of Rs. 15 for 5-year accounts with a monthly deposit of Rs. 10, Rs. 50 for 10-year accounts and Rs. 100 for 15-year accounts with proportionate bonus for accounts of other denominations. As you are aware, contributions to 10-year and 15-year accounts will, besides, earn relief

under Income-tax in the same manner as contributions to Provident Fund and Life Insurance.

We have not so far made an organised approach to self-employed persons. A mail campaign has been organised for appealing to people in professions like doctors, lawyers and engineers and there has been some response. But we have yet to tackle the self-employed persons in business in a big way and it is here that the influential members of the Savings Committee and office-bearers of the Chambers of Commerce—could be of considerable help. The Chambers of Commerce could help by convening special meetings and sending out circulars to other members engaged in various trades, bringing to their notice the facilities available under the Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme. The new National Savings Certificates offer fairly attractive terms. The new series of National Savings Certificates which will be put into effect in June 1965 in denominations of 10 rupees, 100 rupees and 1,000 rupees, with a maturity period of ten years offer a reasonable return which work out to 8 per cent per annum simple interest or 6·05 per cent per annum compound interest. These certificates should be particularly attractive to those who are not liable to income-tax.

Social purpose

While Small Savings are intended primarily for the low-income and middle income groups, its appeal to people in the high income group is also not insignificant. The bulk investments which could be secured from this class can be of great help in reaching the targets under Small Savings. I understand that in some other States the bulk investments from this class of people have contributed not a little to the success of the Small Savings campaigns. At any rate people in this group, whether they are businessmen or industrialists or belonging to learned professions should give a lead to the rest of the society by lending their support to various forms of Small Savings.

The choice as to how much he should save for the family ultimately rests with the individual. But we cannot ignore that in our planned economy such individual decisions of Small Savings also serve a social purpose. No patriotic individual can ignore this social aspect of savings in deciding how much he should save out of this income—be it large or small. It is only through large outlays on developmental programmes that we can strengthen and diversify our economy and bring about a significant improvement in the living standards of the people. But unless these large investments are matched by adequate savings we will generate inflationary forces in our economy. A large Plan therefore necessarily entails increased savings. The Fourth Plan being a bigger plan—being in fact bigger than the three preceeding Plans put together—calls for substantial step-up in savings. The efforts we put in for promotion of savings in the current year which marks the climax of the Third Plan are of great importance, because it is on the results achieved in the current Plan that we can confidently plan for bigger developmental programmes in the Fourth Plan period.

VANAMAHOTSAVA CELEBRATIONS IN 1965

The sixteenth Vanamahotsava is being celebrated from the first week of July 1965, as was done in previous years. The Vanamahotsava this year is being conducted with greater zeal and enthusiasm than in the past as a national endeavour to plant new trees, where trees were not planted in previous years. The first week of July 1965 will be treated as the National Tree Planting Week, although tree planting should be continued to the end of October 1965. The week commencing from 2nd October 1965 will be celebrated as a "Special Week" for planting in areas, where seasonal conditions are favourable for such work.

DEVELOPMENT OF FARM AND FUEL FORESTRY

The deficiency of Madras State in forest resources is fairly well recognised. The area under forests being only 17 per cent of the total land area falls short of the optimum requirement of 33 per cent. In the plans for development of forestry, we have therefore kept in view the need to redress this serious imbalance in land use and have endeavoured to extend forest activity in areas even outside the reserve forests by including schemes for farm forestry and for planting of river and canal banks.

The total expenditure on forest development in the First Plan was Rs. 24·41 lakhs. Attention was concentrated during this period largely on restoration of panchayat reserve forests and assumption of management of ex-zamin forests. A beginning was also made with programmes for economic plantations of softwoods wattle and blue gum.

With an outlay of Rs. 72 lakhs, the Second Plan aimed at a little more intensified development. Among the more notable achievements during this period was the raising of an extent in wattle of over 20,000 acres, of teak over 9,650 acres and of soft woods over an extent of about 8,000 acres.

This emphasis on augmenting supplies from forests of raw materials required for industries has been continued during the Third Plan period.

The scheme for Development of Farm Forestry (Creation of Village Forests) is one of the "Forestry Schemes", undertaken by the Forest Department at a cost of Rs. 75 lakhs under the Third Five-Year Plan. The object of the scheme is to afforest all available Government poramboke lands in compact blocks in and around villages suitable for forest-*cum*-pasture development. These village forests will meet the fuel, fodder and manure requirements of the villages, apart from the fallow lands from the ravages of soil erosion.

The Chief Conservator of Forests has submitted proposals for the continuance of the scheme during 1965–66.

The Government have examined the proposals and sanction the implementation of the scheme for Development of Farm Forestry over 8,000 acres during 1965–66 under the Third Five-Year Plan by the Forest Department. Sanction is accorded to the incurring of an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 5·35 lakhs towards "Works" under this scheme during 1965-66. The details of the area proposed to be planted are given below.

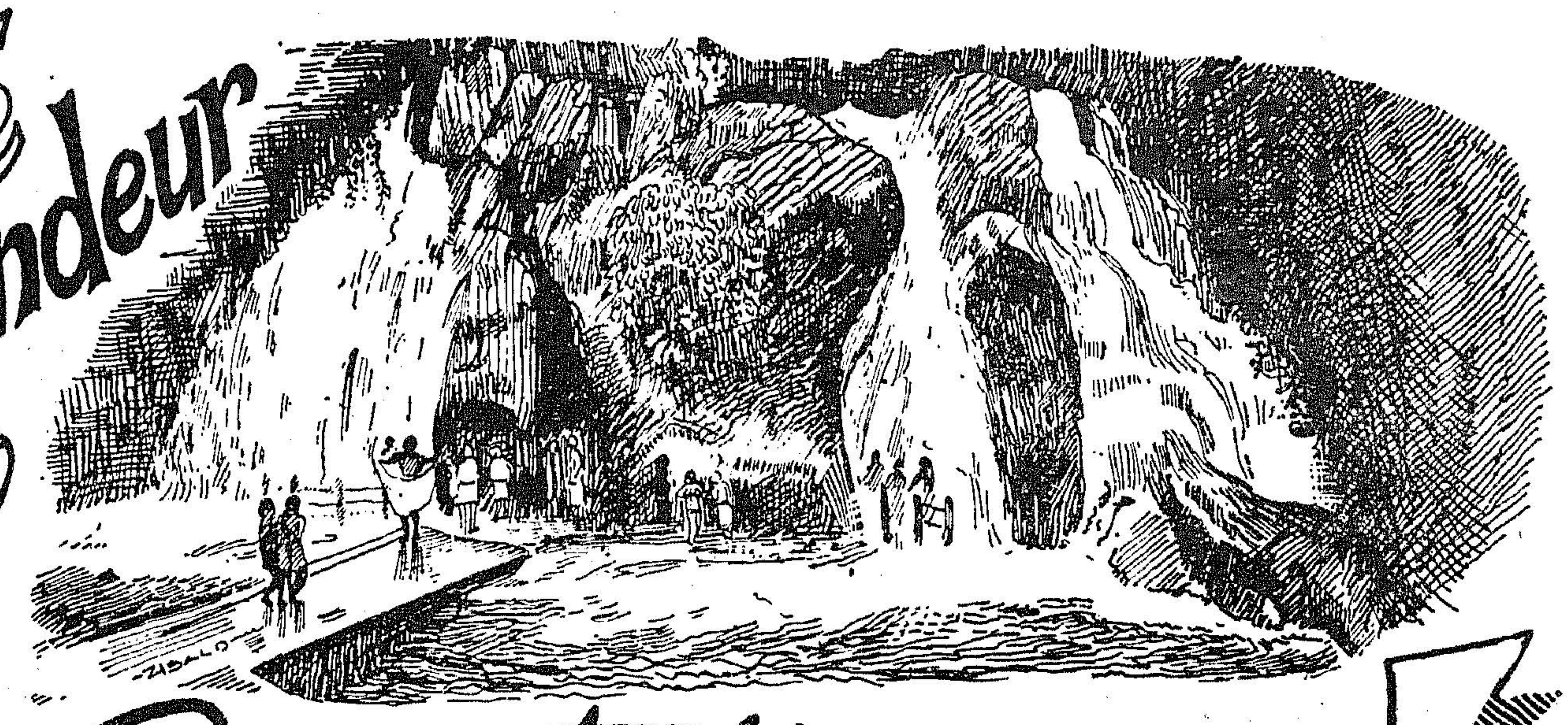
Chingleput 1,000 acres, Cuddalore South 700, Cuddalore North 700, Vellore East 500, Vellore West 500, Salem North 500, Salem South 800, Madurai South 400, Madurai North 400, Ramanathapuram 800, Tirunelveli South 400, Tirunelveli North 400, Coimbatore South 200, Coimbatore Central 100, Tiruchirappalli 200, Coimbatore North 200 and Nilgiris 200 acres.

The question of overcoming the shortage on the supply of firewood, especially in the City of Madras, was considered by the Government. The Chief Conservator submitted a project for raising fast growing species. The project envisages the raising of fuel trees mainly Eucalyptus hybrid and casuarina, in the districts of Chingleput, South Arcot and North Arcot over about 1,37,157 acres of regular forest areas vesting in the Forest Department including the ex-zamin forests, which, at present, carry only a scrub forest of no commercial value and do not even serve as grazing grounds with adequate pasturages.

The Government have examined the Chief Conservator's proposals and have sanctioned the implementation of the scheme for raising fuel forests of fast growing species over 4,000 acres during 1965–66. Sanction is accorded to the incurring of an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 5,28,000 towards works, under the scheme during 1965–66.

On the whole, the progress of schemes under this head of development is very satisfactory. As against a Plan provision of Rs. 212 lakhs, it is now anticipated that the outlay over the Plan period will aggregate to Rs. 259 lakhs representing an increase of nearly 20 per cent over the targetted provision.

The Grandeur of Courtallum



Courtallum, possessing as it does, fine waterfalls, delightful forest scenery, a temple of repute and during certain months of the year an exceptionally cool climate has long been a favourite health resort.

It is becoming increasingly popular due to the interest evinced by the Government of Madras to provide more amenities in line with its coveted policy of developing internal as well as international tourism in the State by providing such modern facilities as are required at places of tourist importance.

The season

The season at Courtallum begins with the setting in of the South-West monsoon in June and extends right up to the end of September. Small hills of 2,000 to 3,000 feet in height surround Courtallum, which is situated on a low plain, feet 550 above sea level. The annual rainfall is 58 inches and is ideal for those who would like a quite holiday or a rest-cure. Courtallum lies between Tenkasi and Shencottah on the Madras-Trivandrum route of the Southern Railway at about three miles from Shencottah, covered by a good motarable road. The place is less expensive than the larger and more sophisticated stations which the middle class of today find beyond their means. On this account alone it is well worth a visit.

Its pleasent climate, wealth of brilliant flowers, delicious fruits and tasty vegetables are an inducement which is beginning to draw visitors from abroad. Hills, dales, cataracts and rivulets everywhere make for enchanting scenic beauty and offer lovely picnic spots.

Greatest attraction

The greatest attraction of Courtallum is the water falls, Vada Aruvi. During the June to September season as also from November to January the period of North-East monsoon the waterfalls Vada Aruvi—one of the most striking natural beauties, is in full flood. It is by this cascade, the Chitrar makes its final descent into the level country. To an observer from the foot the river comes first into sight rushing headlong from the forest above over a precipice, nearly half-way down, a deep trough in the face of the rock known as the (boiling sea) *Pongumakadal* breaks the fall. It is beneath the mass of water issuing from this basin and in the pool lying at the foot of the fall that all classes of people delight to bathe. "What conduces much, to the restoration of the invalids at this signal abode is the little waterfall, under which most of the Europeans daily bathe. This cataract is, by a division of a rock above, separated from the greater one and is not more than 13 or 14 feet high. The falling of the water, after the first shock is over, gives an indescribable feeling of pleasure. By its constant beating it quickens the circulation and produces a fine glow all over the body ; and has, besides the further good effects of dispelling languer raising the spirits, exiting appetite, and promoting digestion in a superior degree to an other kind of bathing that we are acquainted with".

A big arc with iron railings has been provided to protect the bathers and nearly 200 people can take their shower at a time. Separate arrangements for bathing have been made for men and women. It is said that the water has curative and health giving properties as it takes its long course in the hills rich with herbs of medicinal value and minerals.

Other features

In addition to this main cataract, described by Caldwell as the "Finest fresh-water bathing place in the World", there are other falls such as Five Falls and Chitharuvi, resorted to by the selected and the glorious Honey falls or Thenuruvi and Shenbagadevi Falls in the interior of the forest. Just a mile in the South from the main falls is the Tiger Falls and still further about three miles away is the old Courtallum falls which is an imposing cascade (front cover) to which too bathers resort.

The Courtallum hills abounds in spices, honey, jack fruits, etc. There is a Model Orchard Centre at Court. allum To the botanist and the sportsman the jungle around Courtallum is equally delightful. As early as 1835, Courtallum neighbourhood was explored and actaully 1,200 species of flowering plants were collected in an area of twenty square miles. It was calculated that at least 2,000 species were to be found and that the ferns were almost equal in number. Sambur and Ibex are fairly numerous. Little spotted deer are less common. Tigers make occassional descents. Wild pig, wild goat, wild buffaloes, jungle-fowl, and spur-fowl are plentiful.

A Holy Place

A fine temple dedicated to Lord Courtallanather and another temple known as "Chitra Sabha" are other attractions. In fact these Shrines were the Central feature of Courtallum till its value as a sanatorium was discovered. Saint Thiurgnana Sambandar who lived in the 8th Century A.D. sang in praise of the Lord Courtallanathar. His consort Kuzhalvai Ammai and the falls. Another of the four Saivite Saints has also sung in praise of the Lord here.

According to legend Lord Nataraja is said to have danced in five places in Tamilnad which are named "Sabhas". Courtallum is one among these holy places and is called "Chitra Sabha". The Lord Nataraja and his consort Sivakami Ammai are painted here in their usual posture. The famous lyric "Kutrala Kuravanji" of Thirukuda Rasappa Kavirayar deals with the love of the Eternal Pair.

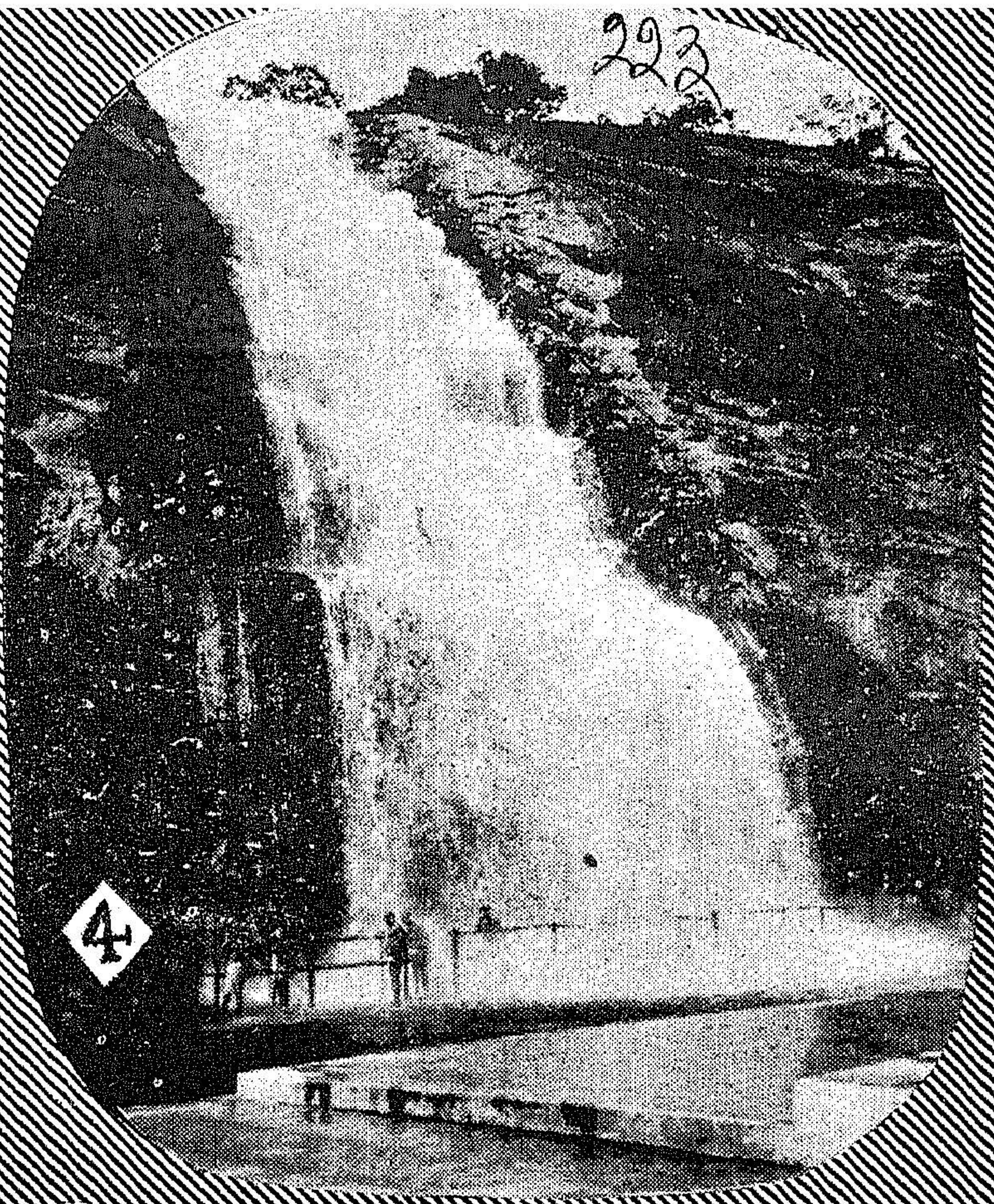
Such is the grandeur of Courtallum hills also known as Pothigai Malai and Agasthyar hills in ancient literature. It is one of the loveliest tourist centres of the South, a sacred place for Hindus, a paradise for hunters and holiday makers and it also abounds in hill produce. No wonder then Bishop Caldwell should have described it as one of the World's best falls.

Bifurcation of Salem District

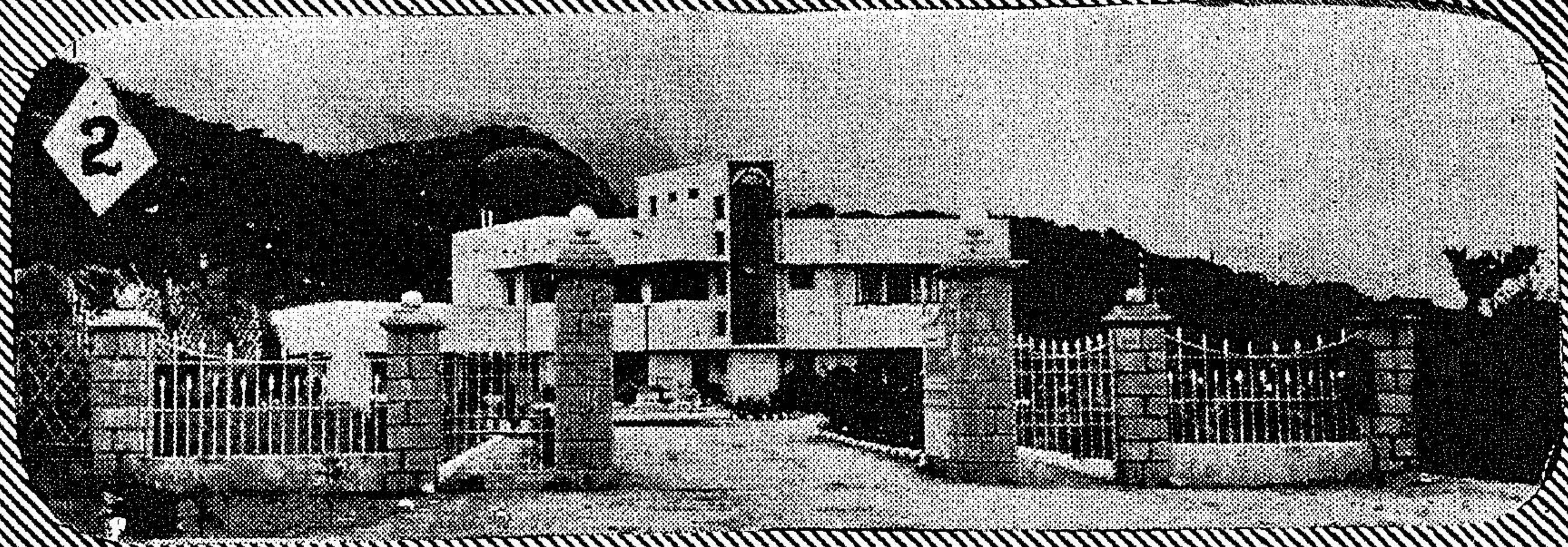
The Government have decided to bifurcate the Salem district. The names of the proposed bifurcated districts will be Dharmapuri district and Salem district. The taluks of Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Harur and Hosur will constitute the proposed Dharmapuri district and the taluks of Salem, Attur, Rasipuram, Namakkal, Sankari, Tiruchengode and Omalur will constitute the proposed Salem district.

INDUSTRIAL PATTERN IN MADRAS

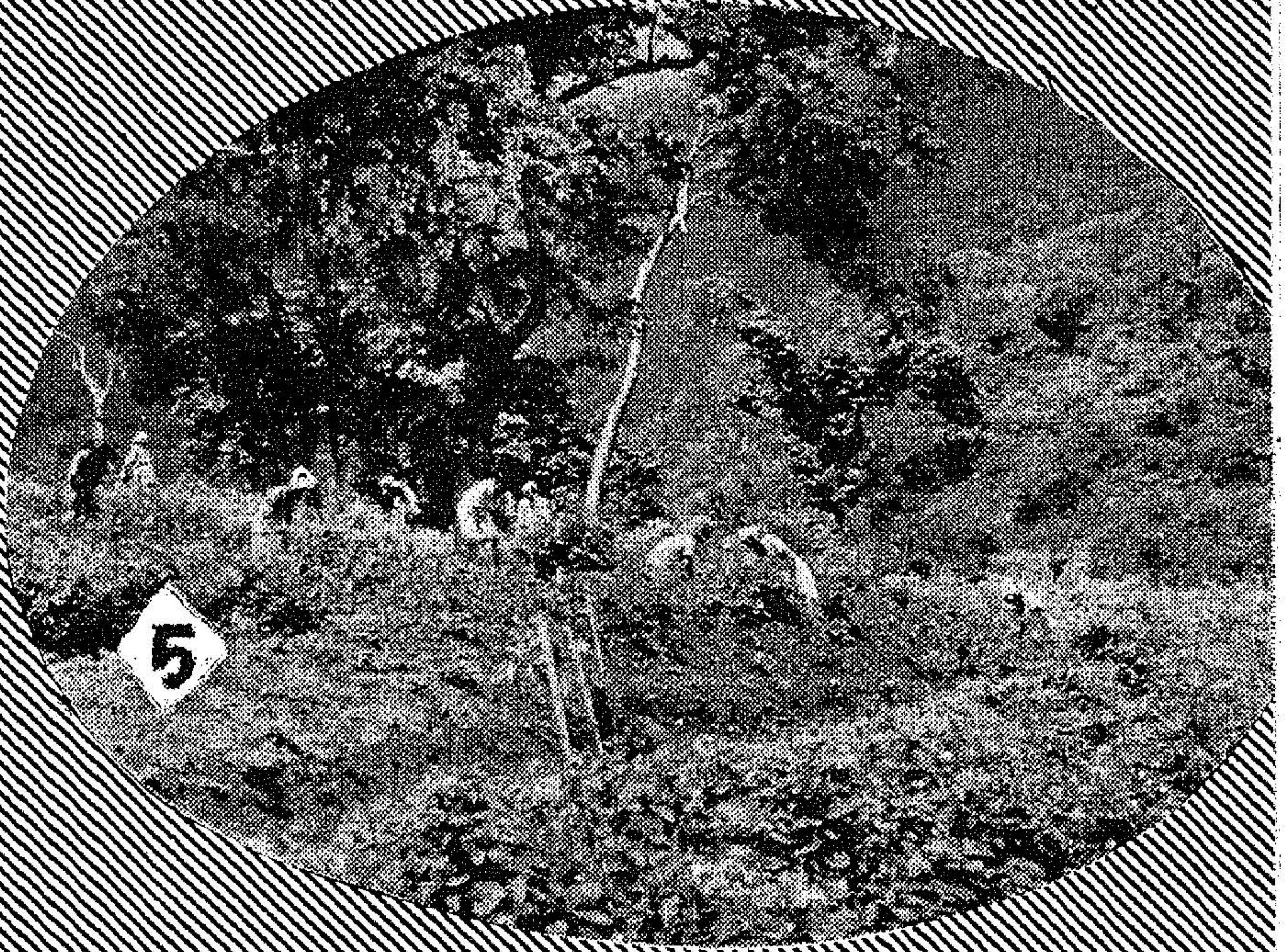
The industrial development of Madras does not conform to any set pattern. From ceramics to scientific instruments, from wire nails to automobiles, the State has a wide range of industries, big and small, producing a variety of products answering to the needs of the small household as well as the big factory.

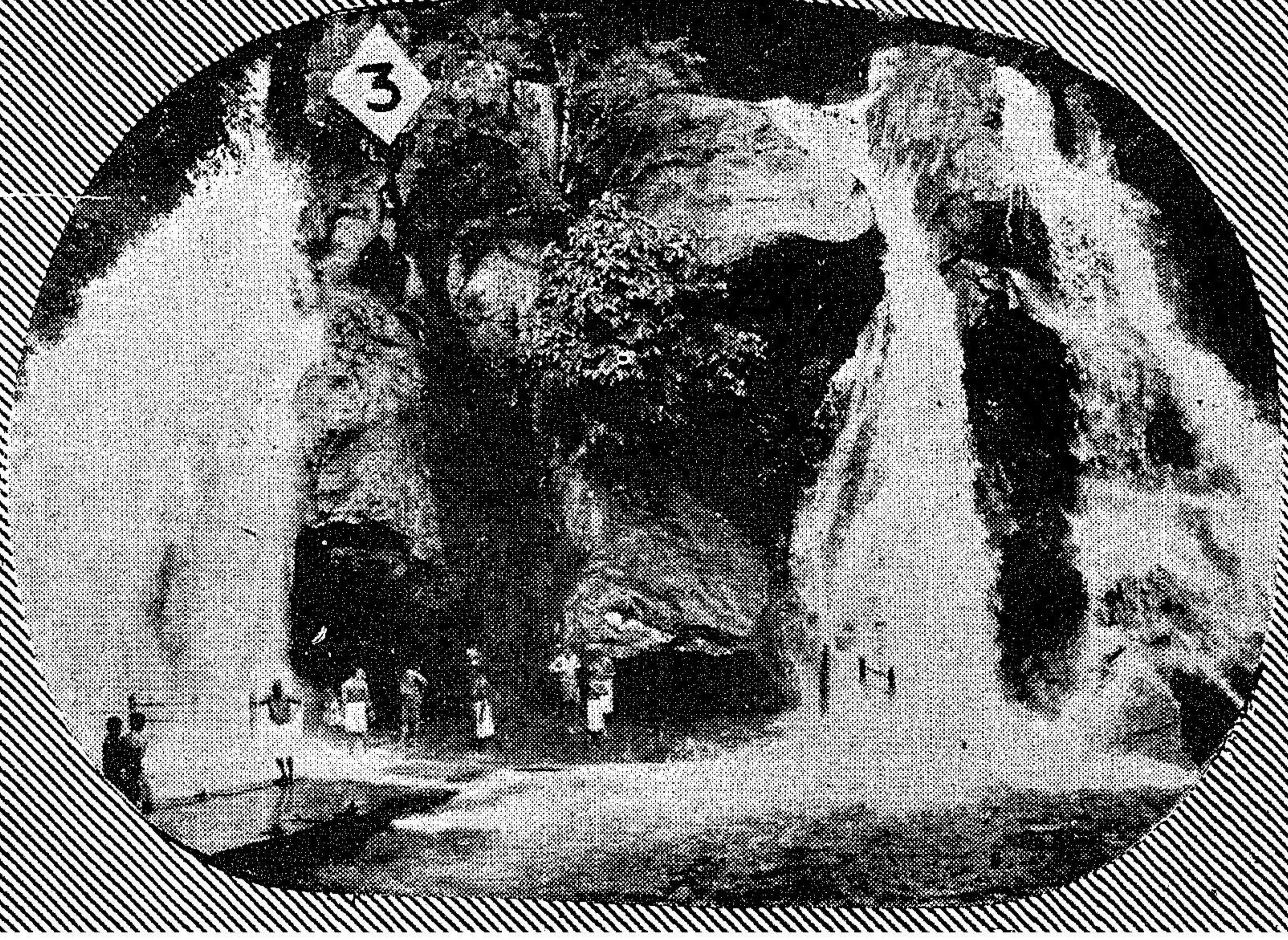


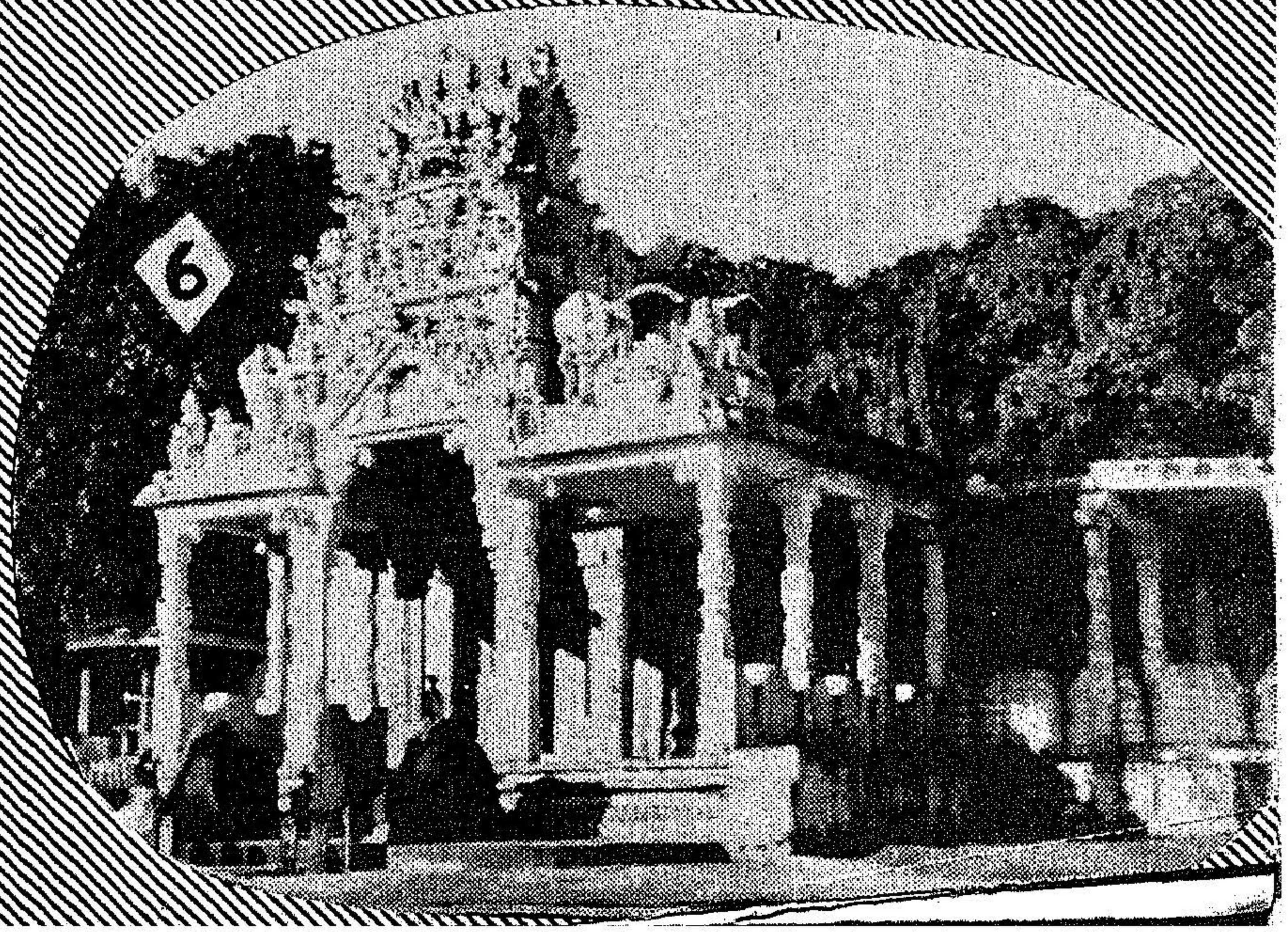
THE IRRESISTIBLE COURTALLUM

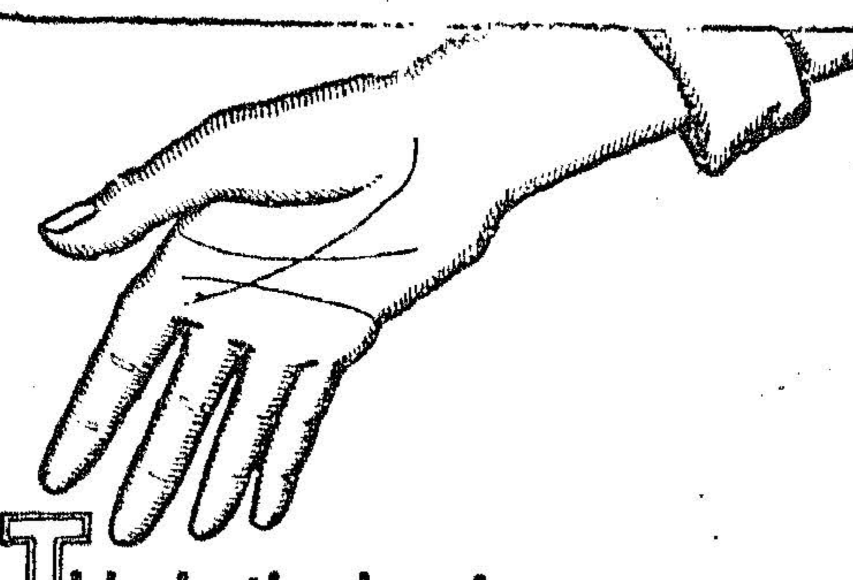


1. The main cataract.
2. P.W.D. Tourist Bungalow.
3. Five falls higher up the hills.
4. Old falls few miles away from the town.
5. Government Model Orchard Farm—a view.
6. The famous Courtalanathar Shrine.

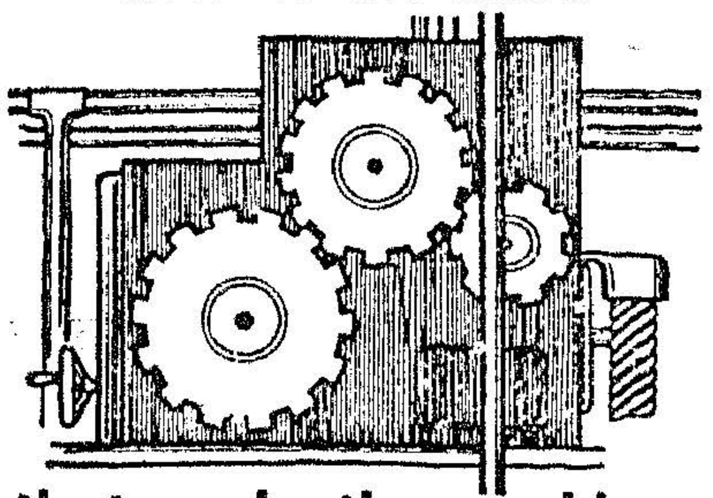




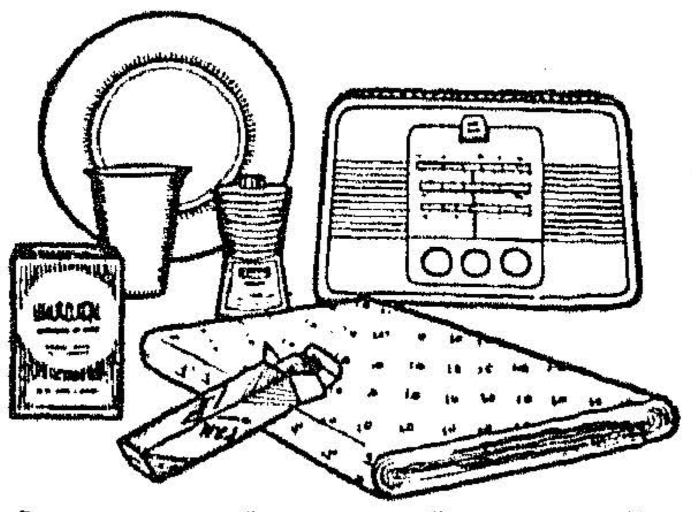




This is the hand



that works the machine



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DA 65/94

PROGRESS OF
PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

The Public Health Department has been implementing important National Schemes such as National Malaria Eradication Programme and the National Smallpox Eradication Programme. Out of the 31 and odd units functioning under the National Malaria Eradication Programme, 15 Unit areas have entered into the maintenance phase last year. The Government of India have ordered that the maintenance phase of the National Malaria Eradication Programme has to be implemented through the agency of the Primary Health Centres. Consequently Government have approved the proposal of the Director of Public Health for the opening of 120 new Primary Health Centres in areas entering into maintenance phase. The Districts of Ramanathapuram, Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur and portions of Chingleput and South Arcot are covered under this programme. Out of the 120 Primary Health Centres, 5 Centres have already been opened and are functioning and it is expected that the remaining Primary Health Centres would be opened under this programme during the course of the current year. The Government of India Assessment team has certified that another 9-1/2 units will enter maintenance phase shortly and therefore more Primary Health Centres will have to be opened.

Various schemes

Another important phase of developmental activity is the "Family Planning Programme". This programme has been intensified in the Primary Health Centres. The Government have sanctioned a male nurse for the Family Planning Programme in the Primary Health Centres under the crash programme. But due to dearth of candidates for the post of male nurse it is proposed to employ auxiliary nurse mid-wives in Primary Health Centres.

The scheme "Immunisation of Pre-school Children with triple vaccine" has been launched with effect from 1st October 1964. This scheme is considered essential for the reason that pre-school children should not fall victims to the three diseases viz., Whooping cough, Tetanus and Diptheria. The scheme is now in progress in Primary Health Centres and so far 11,000 childern have been immunised.

A scheme of "School Medical Inspection" has also been sanctioned by Government for implementation during 1965-66. Under this scheme, it is proposed to institute medical examination of pupils in the Secondary and Elementary Schools. A total of 24,000 school children are expected to be covered during the current year.

Occupational hazards

In August 1961, the Government constituted Environmental Sanitation and Health Education Committee to consider ways and means of implementing the recommendations of the Expert Committees (viz., Tannery Committee, Hotel-Sanitation Committee) to study the industrial and occupational hazards and their elimination and to plan for research to deal with educational aspects of the problem.

The members of the Committee visited a number of different industries in the State such as tanneries, cotton ginning, spinning and weaving mills, cement factories, chemical manufacturing establishments, fertilisers factories, sago industries, rayon factories, glass works and made on the spot critical study of the occupational health hazards in these industries, the sanitary conditions within the factory and its surroundings. The report of the Committee is awaited. The Government have issued instructions that in respect of selection of sites for major public sector undertakings, a representative from the Public Health Department should be associated with the selection so that there are no risks to the local inhabitants from the health point

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Excerpts from the speech of the Minister for Public Health, Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum, at the meeting of the Public Health Board held on 24th May 1965.

of view. As regards private sector projects, the Government have instructed that the Chief Inspector of Factories, should consult the representative of the Director of Public Health before according approval to plans of factories.

Food adulteration prevention

At present the provision of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act are being impelmented in 271 Local Bodies in the State. The total number of samples taken under the Act by way of checking Food Adulteration is about 25,000 per year. The District Health Officers have also been appointed .as Special Food Inspectors for taking samples from the sources of manufacture and to analyse them.

Towards improving the Laboratory facilities for food analysis in the State, a food analysis branch is proposed to be established in the Principle Laboratory at Coimbatore, the building for which is now under construction. A provision of Rs. 3 lakhs has been made in the current year's budget towards purchase of equipment, etc. Besides, Government have also under consideration, proposals for starting a separate State Food Laboratory at Madras and District Food Analysis Laborartories at Madurai and Thanjavur under the Fourth Plan. With the establishment of the additional laboratories it will be possible to increase the number of samples taken under the Act to one lakh per year.

With a view to improving the accuracy of the vital statistics, a four-point scheme for the improvement and strengthening of the machinery for the registration of vital statistics has been introduced in the State. This is a centrally sponsored scheme with 75 per cent Central Assistance. Under the aid from Ford Foundation, Government of India have supplied free of cost necessary machinery for the mechanical compilation of vital statistics at State headquarters.

A provision of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made under Third Five-Year Plan for the provision of sanitary facilities in 500 schools at the rate of 100 schools per year and so far the scheme has been sanctioned for implementation in 100 schools.

Community Canning and Preservation Centre

The Government of India, Department of Food, have established a demonstration-*cum*-Canning Centre for the preservation of Fruits and Vegetables at 6, Ramachandra Iyer street (Ground Floor), Madras-17, for the benefit of the people to help them to stimulate in preserving the seasonal fruits and vegetables and conserve the processed foods when needed.

The Centre, amongst other activities, will also conduct short-term course classes, free of charge, on home-scale methods of fruits and vegetable preservation for the benefit of the house-wife and other interested ladies. Fruits and vegetables could also be got processed, by an individual, from this centre by paying only a nominal processing charge. For further detailed particulars about the functioning of this centre, the Deputy Technical Adviser, Office of the Regional Director (Food), Southern Region, 123, Mount Road, Madras-6 or the Food and Nutrition Extension Officer at the Canning and Preservation Centre may be referred.

Panchayati Raj in a Democratic Republic

SRI V. S. SUBBIAH, I.A.S.,
Collector, South Arcot.

"This is a great step. This means the dawn of real Swaraj for the village people, for they would now be masters of their own house, having the power to decide the methods of their development and to carry out their decisions. The Government would be there only to advise and assist them."

So expressed our late beloved Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru while inaugurating the Shadnagar Panchayat Union in Andhra Pradesh.

Panchayat as a unit of administration is not a political novelty in India. Literary and historical evidences are before us that Village Panchayats of purely democratic set up, have functioned in this country, centuries back, as efficient organs and units of the Government of the day. If inspite of this heritage, those institutions have not flourished and have not come to stay, as a part of our constitutional set up, it was solely due to the ever changing political pattern, frequent fragmentation of Kingdoms and utter lack of unified and integrated administration for the whole country. When British Raj was established in this country, it did not make any attempt to revive the old Panchayat system and it was but natural that the British being foreign did not countenance the creation of effective autonomous self governing institutions, weilding powers and exercising control over the day-to-day affairs of the people.

Gandhiji's Village Panchayat

It should be remembered that Gandhiji's entrance into Indian Politics marks an epoch and his personality dominated the Indian scene for about three decades till his unexpected death in 1948. During this time, his activities were varied and even in his fight for India's freedom, he put forward constructive ideas. His portrayal of Village Panchayat appeared in 1942 in '*The Harijan*'. "He said, My idea of Village Swaraj is that it is a complete republic, independent of its neighbours for its vital wants, and yet inter-dependent for many others in which dependence is a necessity. Thus every village's first concern will be to grow its own food crops and cotton for its cloth. It should have a reserve for its cattle, recreation, playground for adults and children. Then if more land is available it will grow useful money crops, excluding Ganja, Tobacco, Opium and the like. The village will maintain a village theatre, school and a public hall. It will have its own water works ensuring clean supply. This can be done through controlled wells and tanks. Education will be compulsory up to the final basic course. As far as possible every activity will be conducted on the Co-operative basis. There will be no castes such as we have today with their graded untouchability. Non-violence with its technique of Satyagraha and Non-Co-operation will be the sanction of the Village Community...............My purpose is to present an outline of village Government. Here there is perfect democracy based upon individual freedom. The individual is the architect of his own Government. The law of non-violence rules him and his Government. He and his village are able to defy the might of a world. For the law governing every villager is that he will suffer death in the defence of his and his village's honour."

Thus said Gandhiji as early as 1942 on the immutable establishment of the Panchayati Raj throughout the country, envisaging the integrated human growth and

development. It is a signal contribution of India's heritage that only that growth survives and that developmental activity has a lasting value in which the process develops all the aspects of human existence and works from within. In this process the individual citizen has to be provided with opportunities to evolve himself through his own selected mediums in the social, economic and political fields. In a vast country like India, it is obvious it would not be possible for the State to efficiently fulfil this function and hence the great emphasis on the Village Panchayat wherein the individual while fulfilling duty to his country can also have an opportunity to evolve himself which is the essential and fundamental thing that is required for a democracy. Village has been the base of our Society and its economy, and Village Panchayat has been its medium through ages. Similarly the process of social integration can be achieved and its progress enhanced only if it is at once accompanied by a process of social and psychological integration.

From ancient times

These basic approaches have always been present in the minds of the great Indian thinkers from ancient time and so the country has been able to maintain its cultural integrity and polity, despite its many vicissitudes. It is obvious that the British who ruled last attempted a cultural conquest as had never been done before, and as a part of this attempt they destroyed the Village Panchayat System.

The Village Panchayat, as envisaged, is not merely a decentralised basis for administration. It is a medium through which the Indian people in the rural areas can express themselves on the administrative, social and economic problems of the country and evolve an integrated Indian Community through a process of emotional integration. It is not only that every citizen of the country in the rural areas should actively associate himself with the governance of the country through Village Panchayat but he should be given an opportunity and facility to express himself through the system and in the process to develop himself as a worthy citizen of a great democratic republic.

Soul of democracy

The soul of democracy is not merely mechanical rule of a numerical majority but it is the medium for transmitting a sense of participation in the process of evolution of the Society the governance of the country and its development. It is this feeling which can be the hard rock on which the structure of democracy will find a social base. So long as *that feeling* is missing, then, whatever the quantum of physical participation of the people, in the administration or developmental activities, the experiments in democracy will not take roots.

Gandhiji's dream of Panchayati Raj has become a reality when the constitution was framed for India, and in the Directive Principles of State Policy, Article 40 was enshrined in the Constitution which reads :

> " The State shall take steps to organise Village Panchayats, and endow them with such powers and authority, as may be necessary, to enable them to function as units of self-Government ".

And the mighty growth of the Panchayati Raj throughout the length and breadth of the country is the outcome of this Article 40 in the Indian Constitution. Now that the Village Panchayats have become the units of the Democratic Society in India, the needs of the village, which are wholly local in character, can be effectively and expeditiously met. The Village Panchayat can understand the local problems, offer solutions without delay, muster effectively local resources and canalise it properly for the benefit of the local area.

Remodelling village life

Life in the Indian village which suffered continued neglect for a long time, administratively as well as socially, has been brought down to a very low level of despair and degradation. Of all the thinkers it is Gandhiji who saw this with clear perception and gave the blue print for the village reconstruction and without the Panchayati Raj the reconstruction as envisaged by him is not at all possible. A thorough overhaul of all aspects of village life at all levels, social, educational, hygenic, cultural and above all economic and setting up of better standards, creation of new perspectives and outlook of modern life with its advances in Science and technology so that each village may play its rightful role as a useful unit of the Government so that each villager may look upon himself as an useful member of the society, is not all dreams of Utopia but imminent needs of a Sovereign Democratic Republic constituted by a free people.

Centuries of neglect and foreign domination have deprived the villager of his rights as a citizen to participate in the Government of the day. It is only a revolution that can infuse in him the spirit of citizenship and the rights that have accrued to him. And the Panchayati Raj is a silent revolution in this great country—a revolution from brown buneaucracy to benevolent democracy and a smooth change over of power from official to non-official hands and in short it boils

down to the citizen ruling himself for his own sake. Social scientists will say that this is a natural evolution of any Government and that any good Government must resolve itself into this, if it is to stay. No Government will be worth its name unless the voice of its people is heard or echoed in all its councils, be it the smallest unit in the village or the Sovereign Parliament at the Centre.

Powers, functions and duties

The powers, functions and duties of the Panchayat are comprehensive and cover all aspects of village life, carefully calculated to promote the health, comfort or convenience of all the inhabitants of the village. The constitution of the Panchayati Raj is federal in nature just like the federal structure of the Union and the States, so that the entire pattern may be essentially federal, right from the smallest unit of administration. Each unit of this structure is autonomous, exercising independent powers in its own field of administration and do not function as mere agencies of one another. The fact that all these units are elective bodies, returning representatives of the people by popular vote makes the picture complete. Each one of this units of our Republic is a vital link, serving useful purposes from its position of strength. The links have to be firm and stand united to keep up the glory of the Indian Constitution and its administration.

The Directorate of Public Instruction Bifurcated

During the period of the three Five-Year Plans there has been phenomenal growth of education in the State. The Education budget, which was Rs. 11 crores in 1957–58, the first complete year after the Re-organisation of the State increased to 14 crores in 1960–61 and is now of the order of Rs. 35 crores. All areas with a population of 300 and above have been covered with elementary schools. Secondary Schools have come up even in remote areas and their number which was about 1,400 at the end of the Second Plan is now 2,500. The number of Arts Colleges that existed at the end of the Second Plan was 79 out of which 13 are Government Colleges. Very shortly the total number of Arts Colleges will exceed 100 including the 7 Government Colleges which are proposed to be opened this year. There are 18 Training Colleges out of which 7 are managed by Government.

The rapid expansion of educational facilities has increased the work and responsibility of the Education Department and especially of the Director who is also the Commissioner for Government Examinations and the Director of Public Libraries. There have, therefore, been suggestions from various quarters including members of the Legislature and others that the Department should be bifurcated and constituted into separate directorates for secondary education (including elementary education) and higher education.

After a careful review of the foregoing considerations, Government have decided that the Education Department should be strengthened immediately so that it could function more effectively and in a better manner to cope with the various problems created by the rapid growth and the further expansion envisaged in the Fourth Plan. They accordingly direct that the Directorate of Public Instruction be bifurcated and constituted into two separate Directorates, viz., Directorate of Higher Education and Directorate of Secondary Education. The Director of Higher Education will also be the Director of Public Libraries. The Director of Secondary Education will deal with Secondary Education as well as Elementary Education and will also be the Commissioner for Government Examinations. He will also be in-charge of approval of Text-Books.

Sri N. D. Sundaravadivelu, Director of Public Instruction, is transferred and posted as Director of Higher Education.

Dr. M. D. Paul, on deputation to Government of India is promoted to act as Director of Secondary Education without prejudice to the present appointment.

Sri V. T. Titus, Joint Director of Public Instruction (Text-Books), is promoted temporarily to act as Director of Secondary Education.

A new approach to INDIAN GAZETTEERS

PROFESSER HUMAYUN KABIR,
Union Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals.

You may naturally ask what are the gazetteers? A gazetteer literally means a geographical index or a geographical dictionary. Its scope is, however, much wider. It presents, within a limited range and in a readable manner a comprehensive view of a country and its people. It describes the physical, features of a region, relates its history and discusses the social, political and economic life of the people inhabiting it. It thus serves as a guide to the administrator, a reference book for the general public and a source of information for the specialist.

Gazetteer literature in India, as elsewhere, began with travellers' accounts. Examples of such literature in India are the accounts of Megasthenese, Fa-Hien, Hiuen Tsang, Al-Biruni, Ibn Battuta and others. Kautilya's *Arthasastra* also provides valuable statistical information about India in the Mauryan Age.

None of these works can however be strictly regarded as a gazetteer. The nearest approach to a gazetteer in the modern sense is Abul Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari*. Sir William Hunter, the Editor of the first two editions of the *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, stated that he had before him two works as model when he planned the Gazetteers, viz., Abul Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari* and the '*Military Survey of Egypt*', conducted by the French Government in the first quarter of the 19th Century.

The first Gazetteer

Gazetteer literature gained in volume and variety during the early British period. Exigencies of administration compelled the British to undertake the preparation of surveys—general, military, revenue and statistical—in different parts of the country under official and semi-official auspices. To these were added the accounts of foreign travellers which are soon followed by regular gazetteers by private authors.

Walter Hamilton's *East India Gazetteer* was first published in 1815. Edward Thornton published his *Gazetteer* in 1844 and both ran into many edition. Till the publication of the first edition of the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* in 1881, Thornton's was the best known work on India for both the specialist and the general reader.

In addition to these general accounts, the preparation of *District Statistical Accounts* was taken in hand even before the Great Revolt of 1857. It was, however, in 1867 that Richard Temple took the lead in the compilation of the District Gazetteers of the Central Provinces. A large number of District Manuals and Gazetteers followed in rapid succession, but the efforts of the Provincial Governments were unco-ordinated and, therefore, not fully satisfactory.

The credit for planning the serious entitled '*Imperial Gazetteer of India*' must go to Sir William Hunter. In 1869 he submitted to the Government of India a plan for the compilation of the gazetteers which was approved in 1871. The first edition of the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* was published in nine volumes in 1881. Fresh material was added and its revised edition was brought

out in 1885–87 in 14 volumes. The general article on India received high praise and was published as a separate volume entitled "*The Indian Empire*".

Lord Curzon has been criticised for many of his political acts, but no one can deny his role in encouraging intellectual and cultural activities. It was mainly due to his interest that the Imperial Gazetteer was revised and published in 1907–1909 in 26 volumes. The first 4 volumes were the revised and enlarged version of "*The Indian Empire*" by Sir William Hunter. The next 20 constituted the alphabetical series and the last 2 the index and the atlas. Though produced over 50 years ago, this Gazetteer has continued till today to be the most dependable source of information for administrators, scholars and the public on all matters relating to life in India.

Period of change

More than half a century has passed since the publication of the revised edition of the Imperial Gazetteer. This period has seen more revolutionary changes than perhaps any comparable period in human history. Old Imperial systems have disappeared. Science and technology have led to economic and social developments that were unimaginable 50 years ago. A new sense of nationalism is sweeping throughout the world. Along with growing nationalism has come growing awareness of international obligations. Against this background of a changing world the whole fabric of Indian life has changed beyond recognition.

India today is free. With political independence has come a new social and economic awakening. Small towns have become thriving cities. New industrial centres have been established in remote regions. Education is spreading throughout the land and changing traditional beliefs. The national struggle which ultimately led to independence, the industrial developments since the First World War, the enormous expansion of education and the spread of democracy and egalitarian ideals have led to vast changes in the mental and moral attitude of the people.

Our perspective today is much wider than it was half a century ago. We have also much greater information regarding the growth of population and the life and livelihood of the people. This demands radical revisions in our account of the social and political life of the country. Even the chapters on geology written by some of the most competent experts of the time need to be revised and brought up to date in the light of the enormous expansion in our knowledge about the physical characteristics of the earth.

5

The changes mentioned above relate to questions of fact. Perhaps of even greater importance is the question of a new approach. The earlier Indian Gazetteers were written primarily for the use of British administrators. Today, the Gazetteers have to serve an entire people. Under modern Indian conditions, the administrators are not a few-hand-picked men of proven ability but millions drawn from every strata of society. In 1869, Hunter had written to the Viceroy of the day, "Nothing, nothing is more costly to a Government than ignorance." This is a truth which applies with even greater force to the civilians of today. Administration fifty years ago was mainly a question of maintaining law and order. Today, it touches every aspect of life and there is real risk that administrators may lose themselves in the vast expanse of the bureaucratic machinery which has developed as a result of the ever increasing responsibilities of Government.

The need for revising the Gazetteers was widely felt after the achievement of independence. The credit for taking the first step goes to Bombay which started the work of revision in 1949 and published a volume on Poona in 1954. West Bengal issued District Census Handbooks with lengthy introductions furnishing information that is normally included in Gazetteers. Bihar undertook the work in 1952 and published two District Gazetteers on Gaya and Hazaribagh in 1957. Madras began in 1954 and brought out the volume on Thanjavur in 1957. Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh entered the field in 1953 and 1957 respectively. Since then, most State Governments have set up units for the revision of the District Gazetteers.

The Gazetteer of India

The lead taken by the State Governments deserved the highest praise but there was a risk that uncoordinated and independent efforts by the different States might lead to results not commensurate with the effort. The Gazetteers are most useful when they follow a uniform pattern so that people from different parts of the country or outside can find out the information they seek without undue waste of time and energy.

Accordingly, at a conference of representatives of the State Governments and of the various Ministries of the Government of India held in July 1955 it was decided that the old '*Indian Empire*' volumes were to be revised, rewritten and amplified under the authority of the Central Government, while the State Governments would undertake the revision of new compilation of

District Gazetteers according to necessity. The alphabetical volumes of the series were not to be re-issued, but there would instead be a comprehensive all-India index of the District Gazetteers. The preparation of the State Gazetteer was to be considered after the work on the District Gazetteers was completed. The whole of the Gazetteer work was to be 'planned as a single co-ordinated unit, with a uniformity of form, content and standard, but providing room for variations and additions to meet local or special needs.'

The revised version of the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* is entitled "*The Gazetteer of India*: Indian Union". It will be published in 4 volumes, viz., Volume I: "*The Country and the people.*" Volume II: "*History and Culture*", Volume III: "*Economic Structure and activities*" and Volume IV: "*Administration and Public Welfare.*" Volume I is in the press and will be published shortly. It has been originally proposed to publish it by the end of 1960, but since the Gazetteers are revised only after long periods, it was decided to defer publication in order to incorporate the results of the 1961 Decennial Census. A major portion of Volume II has also been written. It is my earnest hope that this will become a standard history of India and recognised as such by scholars throughout the world. We propose to issue later an abridged edition of about 300 pages which would be useful for students. The plans of Volumes III and IV have been drawn up and contributors appointed; a few chapters have already been received.

Now I would like to say a few words about the District Gazetteers. The revision of more than 300 Gazetteers is a stupendous task, but without a thorough revision of the District Gazetteers, the picture painted by the Indian Gazetteers would necessarily remain sketchy and inadequate.

I am glad to note that almost all the State Governments and Union Territories have adopted the scheme and taken up the work in earnest. The results achieved so far have been uneven as different State Governments started work at different times. Seventy-two District Gazetteers have been compiled, of which 36 have already been published and the rest are awaiting publication.

New Gazetteers

Before I conclude, I would repeat that the new Gazetteers are intended to educate not only the administrators but the people in whose hands power ultimately rests. They must be true to facts but at the same time reflect the thoughts, ideals and aspirations of independent India. In a vast country like India, inhabited by people of different languages, customs and creeds, it is essential that members of each community should learn to know and respect the life and culture of other regions and other communities. The Gazetteers must from their very nature provide all with the knowledge of this rich variety.

At the same time, they must bring out the basic similarities underlying outer differences. Social, economic and political inequalities have been the chief causes of India's misfortunes in the past. These can be removed only through national planning guided by the principles of secularism, democracy and socialism. The Gazetteers have an important role in educating public opinion and thus strengthening the foundations of our national life.

[*Courtesy* : *All India Radio.*

PUNISHMENT FOR CORRUPTION

During the quarter ended 31st March 1965, on charges of Corruption, one Deputy Commercial Tax Officer, one Assistant Commercial Tax Officer, one Revenue Inspector and one Lower Division Clerk in the Revenue Department were convicted for one year R.I.

An Indian Administrative Service Officer, one Assistant Public Prosecutor, three Sub-Inspectors of Police, one Head-Constable and one Police Constable were dismissed from service. One Officiating Deputy Superintendent of Police was removed from service. One Police Constable and a Peon in the Registration Department were compulsorily retired from service. The pay of a Sub-Inspector of Police was reduced by two stages. The increment of a Forester was stopped for a period of two years.

Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation's Work

The Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation, leprosy section of the Gandhi Samarak Nidhi till 1962 but an independent society since then registered under the Societies Registration Act, is engaged in carrying on field experiments to find out solutions to various facets of anti-leprosy work. The foundation was established in 1952 and has now completed 12 years of work. It is running leprosy control units at nine places in eight States of India, health education units at 11 places in 10 States of India, two training centres, one of its own and another in collaboration with a State Government, a Mass Education and Treatment Centre, a Chemoprophylaxis Project and a Referral Centre. The Foundation is publishing educational material on leprosy and is also running an Exhibition Unit. The headquarter of the Foundation is situated on the outskirts of Wardha town in Maharashtra State.

The Foundation is carrying on some activities in this State, a brief report of which is given below :

Health Education Unit

The Foundation has, since 1961, Leprosy Control Work for the urban areas which differs from the rural in some respects. In urban areas, the people being sophisticated do not like to be examined but being literate, can understand the early signs of the disease and can be relied upon for referring any suspicious skin patches to their private physician. Facilities for treatment are available in urban areas. Private Practitioners if properly persuaded to treat leprosy patients, and to keep an eye on leprosy lesions while examining their patients, can not only detect early cases but also treat many of them. This programme of urban work with an emphasis on education is launched by the Foundation in 11 health education units in ten States of India.

One of such health education units is located in this State at Tiruchirappalli in Tiruchirappalli district. The Unit was started in October 1962 and is under the charge of a leprosy trained Para Medical Officer. The Health Education Unit is carrying on educational work in the following six towns :

(*a*) Tiruchirappalli,
(*b*) Srirangam,
(*c*) Lalgudi,
(*d*) Kulithalai,
(*e*) Pudukkottai and
(*f*) Ariyalur.

The Para Medical Officer has helped in the establishment of health associations at Srirangam, Lalgudi and Pudukkottai ; where these associations are carrying on health education work in the respective towns with the help of voluntary workers.

The Para Medical Officer established contacts with leading persons, heads of educational and social institutions and private and public medical practitioners at the following towns. He enlisted the co-operation of the social workers who voluntarily offered to do health education work and trained them in leprosy. The number of so trained voluntary social workers is given against the names of each town :

(*a*) Srirangam	17
(*b*) Lalgudi	12
(*c*) Pudukkottai	15
(*d*) Tiruchirappalli ..	23

The voluntary social workers are educating the urban people in respect of early signs and symptoms of leprosy and the importance of early treatment through group meetings, house contacts ; supported by printed educational material in local language. The Para Medical Officer is also making use of the press, cinema-slides, exhibition, etc., in educating the people.

Job study

The Foundation has taken up a study of existing jobs in Public sector industries to find out which jobs are suitable for leprosy patient. There are many jobs in existing industries and establishments, where leprosy patients can be employed. If these jobs are properly studied and those suitable for rehabilitation of leprosy patients selected, the data can be made available to the Government which can consider suitable steps for rehabilitation of leprosy patients in some of these jobs. The Foundation has trained one of its senior Para Medical Officers in evaluation of jobs and this Officer has been carrying on studies of existing jobs in Public sector industries all over India.

This study has been carried out in the following industries in this State :

(*a*) Hindustan Teleprinters, Madras.

(*b*) Neyveli Lignite Corporation, Neyveli.

(*c*) Government Footwear Production Centre, Madras.

(*d*) Integral Coach Factory, Madras.

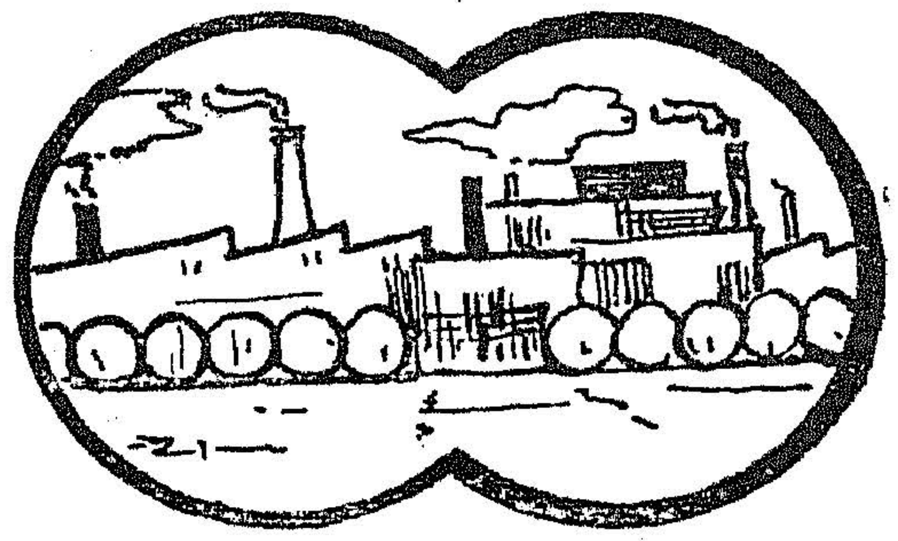
All these industries together have about 227 jobs of different types and the number of workers engaged in these jobs is about 29,000. A preliminary analysis of the data available from these industries has revealed that above 40 jobs with an employment potential of over 17,000 can be done by a leprosy patient also.

SMALL SAVINGS PROMOTION

The Minister for Industries, Sri R. Venkataraman, inaugurated the formation of the large sized Pay Roll Savings group in the Office of the Imperial Chemical Industries, Madras, on 25th June 1965. He praised the work of Sri Kanniah, Vice-President of the Social Club for his strenuous efforts in forming a very good Pay Roll Savings group. He complimented Sri B. K. P. Rao, the Manager, on his efforts to persuade the staff to join Small Savings that serves the individual, the community and the nation together. He felt that the community savings was several times more valuable than raising of funds through loans and under taxes. Savings of the community was a potential resource for the country's developmental programme. He urged that factories and offices in City shall emulate the example of Imperial Chemical Industries and form savings group in their own offices. The Minister felt that he was proud of an organisation that embarked on Savings programme.

Sri B. K. P. Rao, handed over a cheque for Rs. 2,170 representing the Small Savings collections from the staff of the Imperial Chemical Industries for the month of May 1965, along with 173 applications. He stressed the need to stand by the country's needs at the time of emergency. He expressed that Small Savings helped a good cause, while helping the investor at the same time.

Indian International Trade and Industries Fair at — MADRAS —



The All-India Manufacturers' Organization, through the Industrial Foundation, a registered Society sponsored to perpetuate the memory of the late Dr. (Sir) M. Visveswarayya, the founder President of the All-India Manufacturers' Organization is organizing "The Indian International Trade and Industries Fair" at Madras. The fair will be conducted from the last week of December 1966 to the end of January 1967. The venue of the fair will be near Villivakkam, Madras. The site admeasuring about 500 acres lies between the New Avadi Road on the North and Poonamallee High Road on the South and is located about 3 miles from the heart of the City. This will be more than twice the size of any other international exhibitions held in India at any time.

The Government of India and the Government of Madras have very kindly agreed to extend to the All India Manufacturers' Organization, which is the sponsoring body, all assistance and support in this task.

First of its kind

The fair is the first International Trade Fair to be held in our Country and possibly bigger than any other Fair held so far in Asia and Europe next only to the New York Fair currently going on. It will not just be an exhibition of goods produced in India and other foreign countries, but will be a Trade Fair, where trade negotiations can be held and bargain struck. India is planning in a big way to enter the world export trade in non-traditional items of export. India is importing in an increasing measure capital goods and other raw materials necessary for the manufacture of various items of consumer goods for local consumption as also for export. The Trade Fair will, therefore, provide a centre for the exchange of goods and services. It will also give an opportunity to Indians and Foreigners to get an idea of what India has to offer to the outside world and what she needs in return from the other countries for the development of her own economy.

The fair authorities expect about 40 countries to participate in the Fair. In addition to Government of India, the State Governments, and all the public and private sector units are also expected to participate. About 4 million visitors are expected to visit the Fair.

Facilities

It is expected that about 5 millions sq. ft. of space will be available for the display of goods. As at any other International Trade Fair, participants may buy the number of sq. ft. of space they need and build their own pavillions. They may also hire out from the Fair authorities covered space at rates to be fixed depending on type of accommodation and facilities.

For display purposes the Fair will be devided into a number of sections each section displaying a particular line of manufactured goods. This is intended to help the visitor immediately to locate sections that interest him most.

The Fair ground will be served by a net work of well laid roads, and there will be at least four main entrances. Facilities such as :—

Clean and well organized Restaurants to suit the tastes and requirements of the large number of visitors and participants from all over the world; amusement Parks and Fountains ; open air theatres for holding cultural shows—cinema shows, circus, etc., taxi stands, parking lots for cars, ambulance and hospital facilities , railway siding (broad guage) which will connect the Perambur Railway Station as well as the Harbour, etc., will be available.

A number of taxies will be made available at the site. Arrangements also will be made for running of the State Transport buses from different parts of the City.

The International House located in the centre of the grounds will provide—Conference Hall, Trade Negotiation Rooms, Banking Service , Interpretors' and Stenography Service, Telephone Booths, Post and Telegraph Office Counters, Air and Rail Booking Offices, Cafeteria and Cocktail Bar. Hotels will be built for the convenience of those who wish to stay at the site itself.

Representatives of the State Trading Corporation, Indian Investment Centre, Reserve Bank, Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Customs Authorities, etc., also will be stationed at the site for rendering on the spot advice, etc.

The aim

At a time when the Government of India as well as the industrial and business community is straining every nerve to promote exports on non-traditional items, which consist mainly of manufacture goods, an International Fair like this would serve the highly important objective of promoting our exports. The emphasis will be on concluding deals during the duration of the Fair between Indian producers and foreign buyers, as is done in all international trade fairs all over the world. This will be a special and unique feature of this Fair, because, up to now, the emphasis has been mainly on showing to the world what India can produce. But this time, we have now to go a step further to sell to the world what we produce.

At the same time, it has to be realised that international trade is a two-way traffic and when we try to promote our export we should also give every opportunity to manufacturers abroad not only to display their products to the potential Indian buyers, but also to be able to sell their products to us. India needs hundreds of crores worth of capital equipment and industrial material every year. The Government of India have very kindly permitted the disposal by sale of capital goods and semi-capital goods imported into the country, for display and publicity in the Fair, against normal valid import licence, subject to the other normal Rules and Regulations of the Government of India. It is needless to point out that it will be possible for foreign manufacturers of capital and semi-capital goods to show to their potential customers in India by their display at the Fair superiority and the competitive capacity of their machine and to book orders against valid import licences.

In the light of the growing industrial potential of our country, it is the common desire of the industrialists and of the Government of India that progressively larger proportion of capital goods imports from abroad should be manufactured in the country. It will be the special effort of the Organization to persuade foreign manufacturers, who participate in the Fair, to Utilise the Industrial potential of India to work for them and to manufacture and to supply to them certain parts of their equipment which India can manufacture to their required standards at competitive prices, with their help just as at present, in most of the Western countries most of the large manufacturers get various parts of their equipment made by other manufacturers in their own country or outside their country. In this case, items like engineering goods and chemical equipment, tools, jigs and fixtures, gray and malleable iron goods, etc., offer great scope for arrangements of this nature to be made to the mutual benefit of the Indian and foreign manufacturers.

A place of Trade Meet

Another important feature that the organizers desire to incorporate in the Fair is a regular "Trade Meet" between buyers and sellers and conclusion of mutual business. If need be, to accommodate foreign buyers, official translators, interpretors and guides are intended to be provided. It is also intended to provide a special informative service of how a foreign buyer can meet a manufacturer or an exporter. All these services will be without cost. In this task, the assistance of every important Association of Manufacturers and Traders will be sought to represent each individual group of Industry. The Fair will become a place for meetings and seminars for discussing subjects that affect our international trade, e.g., productivity, implementation of standards, etc.

It is also itended by using the good offices of the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Industry, and the Ministry of External Affairs to invite Buyers Delegation from countries with whom we have good international trade relations.

The Fair will surely place India on the map of Industrial World and serve to demonstrate what the Democratic Government with the backing of its people can do to raise the standard of living of its people through democratic means.

Andaman Islands : A Paradise for Holiday Makers

Studded like glittering emeralds in the deep blue waters of the Bay of Bengal, the Andaman and Nicobar islands enchant the visitor by their picturesque panorama, pastoral beauty and grand vistas.

About 250 miles from the mainland the Andaman and Nicobar islands consists of a chain of 223 islands. Of these, 204 islands spread over 200 miles belong to the Andaman group. Port Blair, the headquarters, is about 780 miles from Calcutta and 740 miles from Madras.

With a coastline deeply indented and fringed by strips of golden and sometimes silvery sand, the Andaman islands are veritable paradise for holiday-makers with their green undulating mountains and valleys, secluded bays and blue lagoons, dense forests resounding to the scamper of spotted deer and chirping birds.

Until a few years ago, the facilities for visiting the islands were limited. The sea voyage from Madras or Calcutta took three days. But with the introduction of a regular weekly air-service from Calcutta to Port Blair, except during the monsoon, the time taken for the trip has been cut down to a few hours.

With Independence, a new era has begun in the annals of the Andaman and Nicobar islands. Today, the islands can boast of all-round development. During the last decade, a criss-cross network of over 100 miles of roads lined with coconut trees and at places running along the sea, has been laid in the islands. At presen a trunk road, 210 miles long, is being built. It will connect the north, middle and south Andaman islands. The rapidly growing road transport system is keeping pace with increasing population. But water craft still remains the predominant mode of inter-island communication. Three new vessels will soon be added to the ferry fleet.

In Port Blair, a new tourist guest house is nearing completion. Perched on a hill, it commands a super view of the surfbound sea and the verdant hills around. One wing of the guest house will have accommodation with coocking facilities for families while the other will be reserved for single visitors. Plans for a spacious lounge, a dining hall with beautiful woodwork, lands and gardens hold promise of making it an ideal tourist guest house. Facilities for accommodating visitors already exist at beauty-spots, like Carby's Cove, an ideal lagoon for boating and fishing, five miles from Port Blair. On the Ross Island, facing Port Blair, a zoological garden with an aviary is coming up.

The islands get both the south-west and north-east monsoons, the average rainfall being more than 290 cms. Tempered by pleasant sea breeze, the mercury does not cross the 100° F mark during the summer and falls to about 60° F during the winter. The ideal season for visitors, however, is between January and March, when after the rains the islands bask in glorious sunshine.

For visitors to the islands, multi-coloured corals and rare shells make precious souvenirs. Skilled hand convert rare shells into bric-a-brac and the islands, fine woodwork can vie with any in the world.

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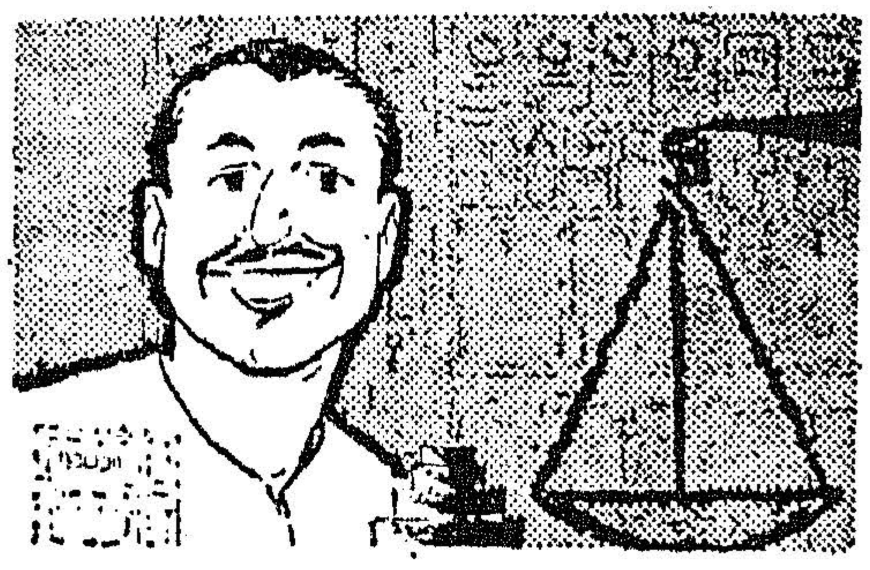

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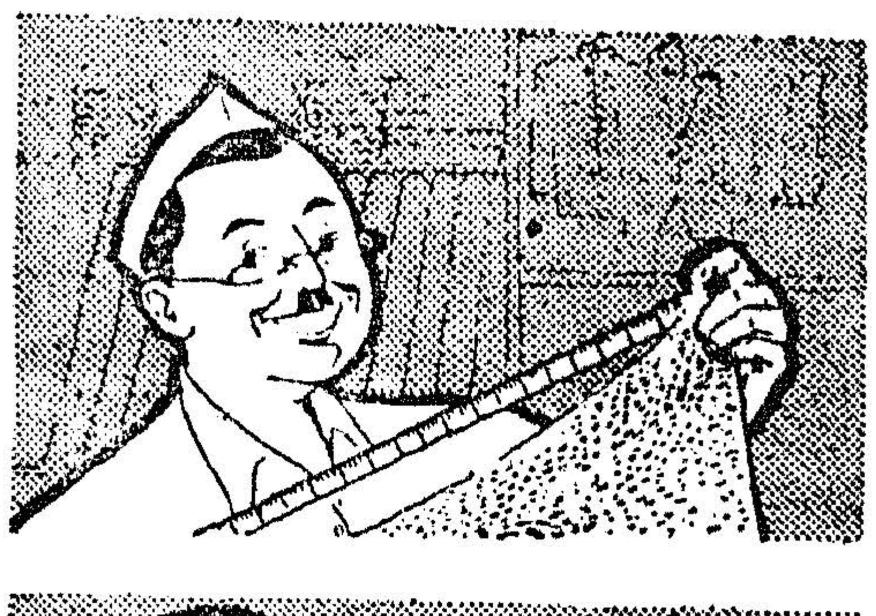

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Warehousing IN INDIA

Sri C. S. RAMACHANDRAN, I.C.S.,
Managing Director, Central Warehousing Corporation.

With the overall shortage of foodgrains in our country and the consequent need to import large quantities year after year, scientific storage has assumed added significance.

A rough estimate places the annual loss of foodgrains during storage at about five per cent and if we were to save even half of it we would have practically solved the problem of shortage.

Warehousing facilities in India were given a concrete shape by linking credit with agricultural marketing in the year 1956 with the enactment of the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act, 1956, as a result of the recommendations of the All-India Rural Credit Survey Committee, appointed by the Government of India on the suggestion of the Reserve Bank of India. This act provided for establishment of—

(i) a National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board,

(ii) a Central Warehousing Corporation and

(iii) a State Warehousing Corporation in every State except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Though the Central Warehousing Corporation was constituted by the Government in March 1957, it actually started functioning in July of that year; the State Warehousing Corporations were organized during the period, July 1957 to August 1958.

The areas of operation have been defined as centres of all-India importance for the Central Warehousing Corporation and those of the State and/or District importance for the State Warehousing Corporations. It has also been envisaged that special problems, such as provision for specialised storage, storage for export and inter-State purposes should be the special concern of the Central Warehousing Corporation.

In the year 1962, the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act, 1956 was replaced by the National Co-operative Development Corporation Act, 1962 and the Warehousing Corporations Act, 1962. The Warehousing Corporations Act, 1962 came into force on the 18th March 1963 when the Central Warehousing Corporation was formally re-established under this Act.

Functions

The functions of the Central Warehousing Corporation and the State Warehousing Corporations remained, by and large, the same under the new Act but the scope of activities was enlarged by the inclusion of 'Notified Commodities' (commodities which the Government may declare by a notification in the official Gazette by the powers vested in Parliament by virtue of Entry 33 in list III of

the Seventh schedule of the Constitution) such as cement, Steel, textiles, leather and rubber goods, coir and coir goods, etc.

The functions of the Corporation, as provided in the new Act, are : (*a*) acquire and build godowns and warehouses at suitable places in India as it thinks fit; (*b*) run warehouses for storage of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilisers, agricultural implements and notified commodities offered by individuals, Co-operatives and other institutions, (*c*) arrange facilities for transport of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilisers, agricultural implements and notified commodities, (*d*) subscribe to the share capital of the State Warehousing Corporations, (*e*) act as agent of the Government for the purposes of purchase, sale, storage and distribution of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilisers, agricultural implements and notified commodities, and (*f*) carry out such other functions as may be prescribed.

Working of a Warehouse

The warehouses of the Central and State Warehousing Corporations work under the respective Warehousing Acts passed by the centre and the different States. These warehouses are licenced under the provisions of the Act.

A depositor is required to bring his produce to the warehouse for storage. The goods, on receipt, are weighed. A representative sample is taken from the stock for ascertaining the quality and evaluation of grade standard. A sealed sample is given to the depositor and two such sealed samples are kept in the Warehouse for comparison with the stocks at any stage. A Warehouse Receipt, which is a negotiable instrument under the Warehousing Act, is issued to the depositor in token of the goods received in the warehouse for storage. The receipt contain particulars regarding the quantity and quality of the goods tendered for storage together with a certificate of insuring the same.

The Warehouse Receipt is accepted by the State Bank of India and other scheduled banks, and the goods, though actually stored in the warehouse, can be pledged with the bank on the production of the Warehouse Receipt. The banks advance loan up to 75 per cent of the value of the goods and the interest charged by them is one to one and half per cent less than what is usually charged by them. The grades of the produce mentioned in the Warehouse Receipt are generally recognized by the trade throughout the country. A depositor can easily sell his goods on the basis of these Warehouse Receipts whenever the rates are favourable to him. Since the produce is stored in a scientific manner there is very little deterioration and as such these fetch better price than those stored in private godowns.

Some of the important benefits of storing produce in a warehouse are :—

(*a*) elimination of loss from damage and deterioration due to insect pests and moisture,

(*b*) avoidance of distress sale by pledging the goods with the banks and obtaining advance to meet the immediate requirements,

(*c*) the Warehouse Receipt being transferable, the ownership of the goods can be changed without the actual movement of the produce,

(*d*) provides safety through insurance against fire, flood and theft,

(*e*) helps evolution and adoption of grades and standards for various commodities, and

(*f*) regulates the flow of goods into the market and thus ensure a better price to the producer and more equated and less erratic price to the consumer.

Storage charges at Central Warehouses have been fixed as low as economically possible. The charges vary from commodity to commodity but on an average 18 to 20 Paise per standard bag per month is charged for most of the commodities. Storage charges are chargeable in full for the first month and for subsequent period it is payable on weekly basis. The facility of a rebate is allowed to Co-operative Societies. The depositor can draw part delivery of his deposits according to his needs. Recently, storage charges on a weekly basis have also been introduced to facilitate short-term deposits.

Scientific storage

With the overall shortage of foodgrains in the country, and the consequent need to import grains year after year, scientific storage by the Central and State Warehousing Corporations has assumed added significance. It is not only necessary to produce the maximum but also to conserve what is produced. A rough estimate places the annual losses of grains during storage at about 5 per cent and if the Corporations are able to save even half of it they would have practically solved the question of foodgrains shortages. This loss in terms of weight comes to about four million tonnes.

Besides foodgrains, considerable loss is caused in the storage of other commodities such as oil-seeds ; spices like chillies, turmeric, corriander, ginger, pepper, fenugreek, cumin, aniseed, cardamom, fibres like cotton, coir

CENTRAL WAREHOUSES IN MADRAS

1	MADRAS	GOVERNMENT GODOWN, NO. 56, BASIN BRIDGE ROAD, MINT, MADRAS.
2	COIMBATORE	6-VENNAL NAIDU ST., FORT, COIMBATORE.
3	VIRUDHUNAGAR	VIRUDHUNAGAR.
4	KUMBAKONAM	BEHIND (B.D.O. OFFICE), NEEDAMANGALAM ROAD, KUMBAKONAM.

jute, oil-cakes, fertilizers, oils, copra, arecanut, cashewnut, tamarind, fruits, vegetables, rubber, leather, textiles, paper and cement. Most of these commodities are very valuable to our National economy besides some of these being foreign exchange earners. It is of utmost importance that these commodities are stored on scientific lines and saved from deterioration.

A wide range of 110 agricultural commodities are stored in warehouses including notified commodities such as iron and steel, insecticides, fungicides, weedicides, rubber, cement, leather, coir, etc. Another Bill has been introduced in the Parliament to further enhance the scope of activities of the Corporations which will enable them to store commodities like lac, tobacco, wool, etc., requiring specialized storage.

The methods adopted for preservation are those which the F.A.O. and Ford Foundation have testified to be efficacious. Many agriculturists have found that the foodgrains stored in the warehouses fetch higher prices than those kept in their private old-fashioned storehouses because of efficient preservation.

Generally, the agricultural commodities are stored either in bulk or in bags and the types of storage structures vary from region to region depending upon climatic conditions and the nature of the commodities.

Setting up of Warehouses

As a rule, warehouses are, in the first instance, set up in hired accommodation for gauging the storage potential of that particular centre and only when it is found to have sufficient potential as to make it a viable unit, the corporations' own construction is undertaken. It has not been so far possible to accelerate the pace of construction due to general scarcity of building materials, difficulties in acquisition of suitable sites, non-availability of scientifically designed warehouses, etc. Despite these handicaps the work of construction of warehouses has progressed side by side with opening of centres in hired accommodation and by the end of March 1963, the Central Warehousing Corporation owned a constructed capacity of 46,600 tons. By the end of 1963–64, 19 centres were completed raising the constructed capacity to 92,135 tons and construction at 14 more centres including a cold storage at Calcutta was in progress. By 1965–66, the number of constructed warehouses will go up to 36 with a total capacity of 168,900 tons and by the end of the Fourth Plan, the Corporation hopes to complete construction of 86 units with a capacity of 368,900 tons.

Different spices pose special problems for storage where great care and skill is required. Spices, if the produce is not dry, deteriorate rapidly while in storage due to developement of fungus. These generally require to be stored in separate rooms.

To overcome storage losses, specialized storage structures are being designed on scientific lines for spices like turmeric, etc. The establishment of such structures is being considered for centres like Calicut, Cochin, Alleppey, Quilon, Virudhunagar, Mangalore, Nizamabad and for other places which are centres of spice production/storage. Such structures are already functioning at Sangli and Mangalore.

Training of Technical Staff

The responsibility of proper grading, storage and preservation of these commodities for sufficiently long time and of their return to the owner in the same quality and quantity, devolves on the field staff manning the warehouses. As such, intensive theoretical and practical training for them is essential. One of the major difficulties confronting the programme of expansion of the warehousing scheme is the paucity of properly trained technical staff. The Central Warehousing Corporation is organizing training courses at regular intervels every year, and even sometimes more than one course a year, for imparting training to the candidates selected by the Central and State Warehousing Corporations.

Since its establishment in 1957, the Central Warehousing Corporation has held eleven such Training Courses and trained 827 candidates. In addition to the regular Training Courses conducted on an all-India basis, Regional Refresher Courses are also arranged to keep the field staff well-versed with the latest developments in the fields of their activities. So far, five Regional Refresher Courses have been held.

The Training Courses are primarily conducted for Inspection and Storage Officers, Warehousemen and Technical Assistant-*cum*-Graders recruited by the Central and State Warehousing Corporations. However, a limited number of candidates from co-operatives, commercial institutions, trade and private individuals are also accepted. In order to maintain high standards in field work, the candidates admitted to these courses are Graduates in Agriculture, Zoology, Chemistry, Commerce or Economics.

Progress

Warehousing is a new venture, launched hardly seven years back, and it will necessarily be some time before its impact can be felt on the rural economy of a vast country like India. Beginning with just seven warehouses in 1958, the Central Warehousing Corporation has now 86 warehouses in different parts of the country while the State Warehousing Corporations have established 525 centres during this period.

In terms of storage capacity, the Central Warehousing Corporation started with 7,000 tons which increased to 80,000 tons by the end of the Second Five-Year Plan and is $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs tons at present. The deposits by the end of 1963 had increased to 135,000 tons. This is reinforced by another 4 lakhs tons capacity in the warehouses set up by the 14 State Warehousing Corporations.

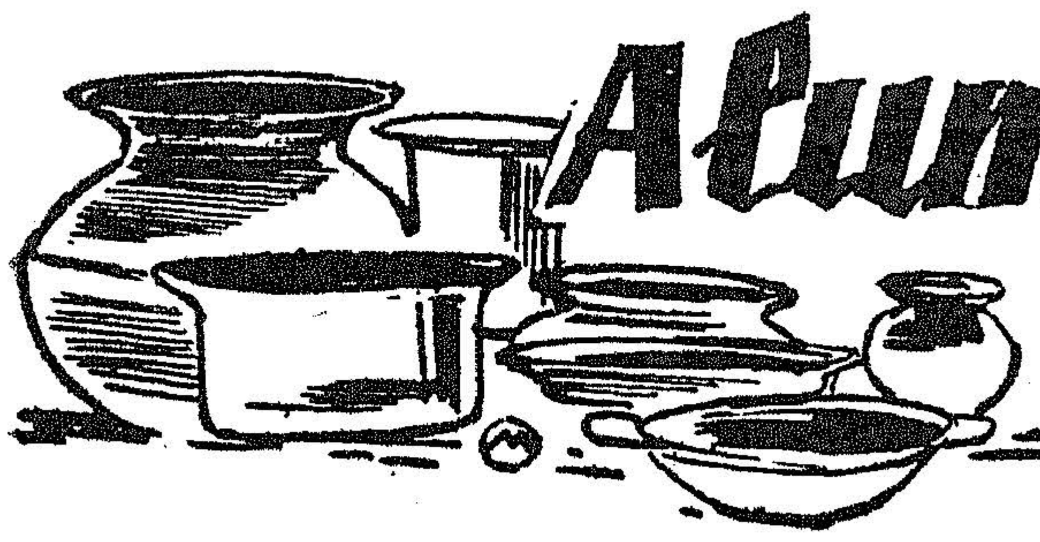
Farmers have also to be educated in pooling their resources for scientific storage and sale at proper time through the co-operative marketing societies. Since suitable storage accommodation at present available with any recognized agency in this country is still very limited, there is a great scope for storage of agricultural produce on scientific lines in godowns and other constructions of the Central and State Warehousing Corporations to avoid wastage, which is till to the tune of about four million tons in this country.

The Warehousing Corporations are also proposing to give every assistance to the Food Corporation of India in the matter of storage of foodgrains likely to be procured by them, and a plan of expansion of such facilities specifically to meet their requirements is now under active implementation.

INSTALLATION OF WIRELESS TRANSMITTERS

The need for wireless sets for voice operation at important places in the State particularly the East-Coast to facilitate efficient and quick means of communication in times of floods and cyclone emergencies had been keenly felt during the 1961 floods in Thanjavur district. The utility of wireless sets has been amply demonstrated by the availability of one at Dhanushkodi during the recent cyclone in December 1964. The question of installation of wireless transmitters and transreceivers to serve as efficient and quick means of communication in times of floods, cyclone, etc., has therefore been re-examined. It is considered that the system of wireless transmitters operating from the coastal belt during the North-East Monsoon and from the strategic points in the Cauvery and Bhavani Irrigation Systems during the South-West Monsoon will be of great advantage, as it would help and guide intelligent anticipation of calamities and facilitate preventive measures to be taken quickly.

The Government have accordingly sanctioned the purchase and installation of seven wireless transmitters and transreceivers at important places in the State at an estimated cost of Rs. 49,000 non-recurring and Rs. 20,720 recurring for operation and maintenance by the Police Department, in the interests of efficient and quick means of communication in times of flood and cyclone emergencies.



Aluminium utensils manufacture

The following is a Model Scheme for the manufacture of aluminium utensils.

Building

A building of 16 feet by 12 feet for accommodation of the machines and one small room to serve as store room can be secured for a low rent.

		Rs.
Buildings rent (approximately)	.. ..	75 per mensem

Machinery		*Approximate Cost in* Rs.
One Motor 5 h.p. (with shorter and switch).		900
Three spinning lathes	.. .. ..	1,350
Three counter shafts	.. .. .. }	450
Three ball-bearing with pedestal	.. .. }	
One 2″ bright shaft 15′ 0″	.. .. ..	150
Three 16 dia slit fully	.. .. ..	120
One 18 dia. slit fully	.. .. ..	60
Canvas belts 2″, 50 feet	.. .. ..	37·50
3½″ or 4″, 20 feet	.. ..	20·00
Six sets of yeast from dies	.. .. ..	200·00
Weights scale (50 kilo.) made of MSWCP.		200·00
Pressing Tools	.. ..	25·00

Erection charges

Materials 200	.. .. }	500·00
Labour 300	.. .. }	
Total	.. Rs.	4,012·50 or 4,000,00

Spinning machines and motors can be purchased from Messrs. Eswaran Industries, 14-A, T.H. Road, Madras-19 and other items can be purchased from hardware merchants.

Cost of raw materials.

(A and B quality aluminium metal to be used.)

		Rs.
50 kg. circles at Rs. 5·50 per kg.	..	275
Labour charges at Rs. 0·50 per kg.	..	25
Total	.. Rs.	300

Aluminium disc can be had from—

Jeevanlal & Sons, Mint street, Madras.
Ganjetic Co., Madras-1.
Santhosha Nadar and Sons, Madras-1.
Sunbeam Metals, Madras-19.
Ramakrishna Rolling Mills, Madras-19.

Labour and other charges

		Rs.	P.
Spinners 3 on Rs. 3 on contract basis	..	9	00
Feeders 3 on 50 P. (boys) on contract basis.		1	50
Polisher 1 on Rs. 1·50 on contract basis	..	1	50
Polish (Boys) 2 on 75 P. on contract basis.		1	50
Emery paper, map, gunny electricity	..	3	37
Total	..	316	87
Sale of articles at Rs. 6·50 per kg.	..	325	00

Further details can be had from the Rural Industrialization Officer, Chepauk, Madras-5.

Grow One More Habit : The Savings Habit

EMERGING PATTERN

New sights, new sounds, new joys and new hopes—these are the features of the evolving industrial economy in the State.

In and around the cities and towns in the State, factories, big and small, are rearing up their head, their tall chimneys emitting clouds of smoke. The air is full of din and bustle—the factory sirens wailing, the workers rushing to and from the factories and the workshops resounding with the noise of running machines.

The industrial horizon is broadening, the hopes of more employment are running high and the joy in participating in these developments that change the content and goal of life is visible on the faces of workers and peasants.

The Plan is responsible for this emerging economic pattern. Hence the enthusiasm of the people for implementing Plan Schemes.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Leisure time Activities of Teenagers AND University Students

Educational Institutions viz., schools or colleges are an integral part of the way of life of a people. They drew their urges, ideals, inspiration, objectives and modes as well as their sustenance from them and in their turn contribute to the growth and development of the Nation by extending the frontiers of knowledge, by preserving its social heritage and cultural tradition. The social role of Educational Institutions as centres of citizenship training and as places where the youth get their primary social re-orientation, responsibilities and social adjustment is now fully appreciated in all progressive countries.

The function of the school is no longer limited to academic instruction but extends to training for social citizenship as well. As such not only the internal curricula of the schools and colleges are considered important but also the day to day conduct of the students outside the class room, their pastime persuits, their leisure time activities, interest and goals are of interest not only to the educationists but also the society at large.

The changing social conditions have made leisure a factor of growing importance. People in every trade and profession ask and have more and more of it and the students are no exception to it. Leisure is essential and important not only for physical and mental relaxation and recreation but also as a means of giving expression to and developing the creative aptitudes of individuals. But at the same time if leisure is not properly used in well directed channels, it would lead to social disorganization, wastage of human resources, both physical and mental, and youth will drift into vagrancy and indiscipline and habitual criminality in later life. Hence the urgency and importance of the plans and programmes to utilize the available leisure-time in an individualized constructive and socially beneficial manner.

Objective

The Public Co-operation Division of the Planning Commission and the Madras State Government entrusted the Indian Conference of Social Work (Madras Branch) with the Research Project on a "Study of Leisure Time Activities and Needs of Teenagers and University Students in Madras City."

The aim of the study is to find out how far the modern educational methods are preparing the individuals inside and outside class room for effective social adjustment, by providing for their specific needs, congenial to their development at their teenage period. The study is devoted to assessing the leisure time needs of the students in Madras City and to finding out the right information about the facilities for the teen-agers as they exist in schools and colleges for the right type of his leisure-time activities and to see how far these facilities are beneficially utilised by the teenagers.

The objectives of the study can be classified into three heads :—

1. The assessment of the leisure-time actually at the disposal of the students and a study of their activities during such leisure time.

2. A correct finding on the present facilities and programme for the teenagers in educational institutions and outside for such study.

3. A drawing up of a constructive programme so that the energy of the youth may be well directed as to conduce towards national development.

The sphere of enquiry covered all the educational institutions in the two Revenue Divisions of the Madras City, which provides High School and non-professional University education. For the purpose of the study of the meaning of the word teenager had been functionally broadened to include individuals coming under the age group of thirteen to twenty-one. It thus practically embraces adolescence and very early adulthood of the conventional classification. This widening was because of the understanding that the individials personality is moulded greatly in the School and College society and that it is the period during which the individual gradually attains maturity. As this age group is formed mostly in the VIII, IX and X standards in the Schools and P.U.C. and Degree Classes in the colleges only students of the above classes were taken for consideration for interview. In regard to leisure, it was decided that it should cover all free-time which the youngster has at his disposal.

Facilities

The question has been raised concerning the way the teenagers spend their leisure time inside as well as outside their school hours, i.e., what they do when they are free from any regular compulsory activity, curricular or extra-curricular, set for them as part of their educational programme. To the education reformer and the sociologist this is of importance particularly in a developing country. This enquiry tries to find out how the teenagers in schools and colleges in the Madras City spend their leisure when they are free from the guidance of their teachers and what their needs are if this time is to be profitably utilised. A student in spite of the load of the regular curricular work and the compulsory extra-curricular activities, still has considerable free time left that could be used at his free will. But he is not profitably able to utilise it because of the lack of proper facilities, opportunity and guidance. The absence of facilities to utilise such leisure-time in proper directions affords scope for the teenager to direct his energies in undesirable and unwelcome channels. Workers dealing with the problem of student indiscipline find that it is closely related to misdirected leisure.

The majority of the teenagers are day-scholars and of the day scholars the biggest single group consists of those who live with their own parents. Eighty-eight per cent of the day-scholars live with their own parents, eight per cent live with their guardians, two per cent live with their relatives, one per cent in private hostels and the same per cent live with their friends. This distribution show the need to direct more attention to the homes and no facilities available near about such homes.

This naturally leads us to parental and neighbourhood responsibility so that such facilities for the teenagers outside their class hours are provided. But the impression gathered by the research team is that the parents show that it is the responsibility of the educational institutions to guide and look after the activities of their students inside as well as outside school hours, while the attitude of the institutional authorities, as expressed by them before the interviewers, indicates that their thinking is the other way round. They believe that their responsibility is confined to the premises of their institutions and does not extend outside.

The residential factor seems to have a positive significance in regard to the leisure time and to leisure time activities and needs of the teenagers. The availability of leisure time is also directly related to the distance he has to cover to reach institutions where he studies, and also the conveyance he makes use of to cover the same.

Again facilities are definitely more in the hostels for the inmates to spend their leisure time in a constructively recreative manner than in the residential areas. Sixty-seven per cent of the day-scholars showed that they do not have facilities of any sort in or around their residences available to them whereas hostels managed by schools and colleges have a modicum of facilities for the inmates for recreational activity.

Leisure time available

The data pertaining to leisure time is very interesting and informative. The average amount of leisure which a teenage boy has during a working day is 3·8 hours and which a girl has that day is 2.9 hours. The average amount of leisure available to the teenager boy during the holiday is 6·2 hours and the same for the girl is 4·3 hours.

Leisure time is more during holidays than on working days and students in hostels and those living close to school or college have more such time. While the bulk have between two to four hours on working days and three to five hours on holidays only 4 per cent and 7 per cent of them answered respectively that they have no leisure time at all on working days and holidays, as they are fully engaged in their scholastic and household duties and in going to and returning from school.

The average leisure time available for the boys as pointed above is more than that of the girls both on working days and holidays. This appears to be due to the fact that the girls living in homes have a greater number of regular responsibilities in the homes than the boys have.

A number of interviewees said that on holidays they do not have much to do and that they just do not do anything at all. More girls said so than boys and this was to be expected as their games and other extra-curricular activities are limited to the school compound and few of them may go out to outside clubs or associations for such activities as the boys can do. So on the holidays they do not have much facilities for the available free time excepting domestic chores which the majority of them expressed as their routine duty.

The general picture gained from these observations is that the teenagers have a definite quantity of leisure time averaging in a year 1,010 hours for girls and a 1,390 hours for boys during the school going months besides roughly a full two months of vacation. This is quiet a sizable part of waking hours as to need well directed attention from the parents, the academic authority and the State as by any computation it is more than the part actively spent for studies.

Games and leisure time

Games and physical training form an integrated aspect of our modern educational system. These play an important role in building the personality of the individual not only physically but culturally and emotionaly as well. A student learns to accept success and failure as incidental to all effort and also acquires a special toleration and appreciation of the other man's faculty and point of view. Games form one of the most popular leisure hour activity of teenagers as it provides controlled and well directed scope for utilisation and release of abundant energy of youth.

Facilities for games activities provided by the institutions are far from adequate to meet the needs of the students and the heads of the institutions themselves are aware of this fact and have said so.

Reasons for inadequacy of facilities given by the institutions are :—

Reason.	*Number of institutions.*	*Percentage.*
1 Space	27	42
2 Finance	4	6
3 Personnel	1	2
4 Finance and Personnel.	3	5
5 Finance and Space	16	25
6 Personnel and Space	4	6
7 All	9	14
	64	100

Even in institutions where play-ground is available there is no positive relationship between the population of the students and the play-ground the institutions has.

In the city the general acute pressure on space is reflected also in this but it has also a historical aspect as schools and colleges have started in buildings in streets to meet the clamant demand for academic institutions and thinking. This was merely confined in many cases to the provision of class rooms. The conditions now prescribed by the Department of Education and the University had not been then formulated. Also even now school and college managements and teachers and parents generally are so obsessed with results in examinations and the public grade them only on the basis of such results that these 'needs' of teenagers are more deemed as 'refinements and luxuries rather than essentials'.

Participation in games

The institutional heads agree that the student participation in games is not encouraging on the whole. And the table shown below points out the reason stated for such non-participation on the part of the students :—

	Institution.	*Percentage.*
1 Lack of facilities	24	26
2 Distance	11	13
3 Lack of interest	4	4
4 Medical reasons	6	6
5 Discouragement by the institutions as they affect the studies.	1	1
6 Lack of interest and facilities.	3	3
7 Lack of interest and discouragement.	6	6
8 Distance and discouragement.	2	2
9 Distance and lack of facilities.	16	17
10 All reasons	7	7
11 Other reasons	1	1
12 No response	13	14
	94	100

Another interesting finding in this respect is that the majority of the teenagers prefer to play in the school or college ground rather than go to other grounds or associations or clubs. It is so particularly in the case of girls as they do not like to go to outside clubs or associations.

Students play in school grounds not only because they form part of their curriculam but also because they do not have facilities for games outside. This is more so with girls. Seventy-one per cent of the boys play in school grounds and 28 per cent of them play in outside grounds of a club or association. But in the case of girls 93 per cent of them play in school grounds only. None of them make use of outside grounds.

Extra Curricular Activities

The average number of domestic duties which boys have to perform is 1·5 while that of girls is 3·2. Girls still have their orientation in domestic managements and household responsibilities in their own families from their early teens. The actual responsibility also varies according to the sex. It is to be expected kitchen work, tailoring and embroidery are done by girls while marketing seems to be common work of the boys. Duties such as taking care of the children and washing do not show much difference. Gardening, looking after domestic animals, undertaking part-time jobs constitute a small portion, more done by boys than by girls.

The information relating to extra-curricular activities is of considerable interest, because it throws light on such activities as they enjoy doing, watching or listening. The responses show a variety of interesting items of such extra-curricular activities.

Activity.	*Percentage of the total.*
Listening to radio	18
Reading books and magazines	18
Watching games	13
Movie going	12
Visiting friends and relatives	12
Music and dance	10
Hobbies	9
Political meetings	4
Theatre attendance	4

Listening to Radio broadcasts and general reading seem to be the most favourite leisure time activities enjoyed by the teenagers. Watching movies, sports and games and visiting friends and relatives are the next popular choices. Drama and political meetings seem to be out of favour. These indicate lesser interest towards joyous doing like hobbies involving hand work. One reason is obvious, viz., lack of equipment and facilities for such creative and constructive and educative hobbies.

Audio-visual Education

Audio-visual education is one of the most interesting and effective means of instruction. The appeal to the eye and the ear is considerably more effective in regard to children and teenagers and good results can be achieved by co-ordination of this method with other media of teaching. Hence it is that the Education department have provided for such Visual Education in Schools and Colleges. The All-India Radio also has introduced special programmes intended for school and college students.

Film shows, from the data available, seem to be very popular with the teenagers. They not only spend considerable amount of their leisure time in seeing pictures but also a considerable portion of their pocket money. If they had more time and money they would certainly see and enjoy seeing more. Boys in Hostel see on an average 2 pictures a month while day scholars see only 1·5.

Radio listening is another activity which is very popular with both boys and girls and it is one of their favourite activities. Excepting for 12 per cent of the teenagers all of them spend some of their leisure time in listening to radio programme daily, though in varying proportions.

Fine Arts

It is essential to create and foster a taste for fine arts in the young mind to make for a complete personality and interest in fine arts is the mark of culture. They take away also the medium of continuous study and give play for creative ability and the pleasure of performing and watching colleagues perform. It is gratifying to find that except for 16 persons that is 3·4 per cent of the total the rest have one or more favourite fine arts. On the average, girls take interest in fine arts more than boys do, their average being 2·6 per cent as against 1·8 per cent of the boys. It is interesting to know that fine arts facilities are encouraged more in girls' institutions and co-educational institutions than in boys' institutions though investigation indicate more interest for music among boys.

Taking interest in hobbies has not yet been taken root in our country but it is quite necessary that we cultivate this healthy habit of taking to one hobby at least to compensate for the drudgery of compulsory occupation even if it be interesting to a teenager. It is also not likely that the hobby would be a stand by to a person in his later life. The responses show that thi shabit is gaining ground. Of the teenagers interviewd the majority had some hobby or other but their activities in this regard are not yet organised or properly guided and lack financial support.

Data is also available on the attitude of the heads of institutions towards encouragement of hobbies. Though 35 institutions have stated that they encourage hobbies, the majority of them do not have hobby centres or organised activities in order to utilise the leisure time of the teenagers in a proper constructive way.

Books and Magazines Reading

Reading general books, magazines, story books, periodicals, etc., is another leisure time activity which has educative value and is complementary to school time study. But it is the feeling of the heads of the institutions and the teachers who were contacted that the modern education imposes too much of bookish knowledge and the student is already burdened with the prescribed text-books to be studied. From the data collected it is however clear that the teenager still finds interest in reading books other than his prescribed class books for pleasure or knowledge or relief.

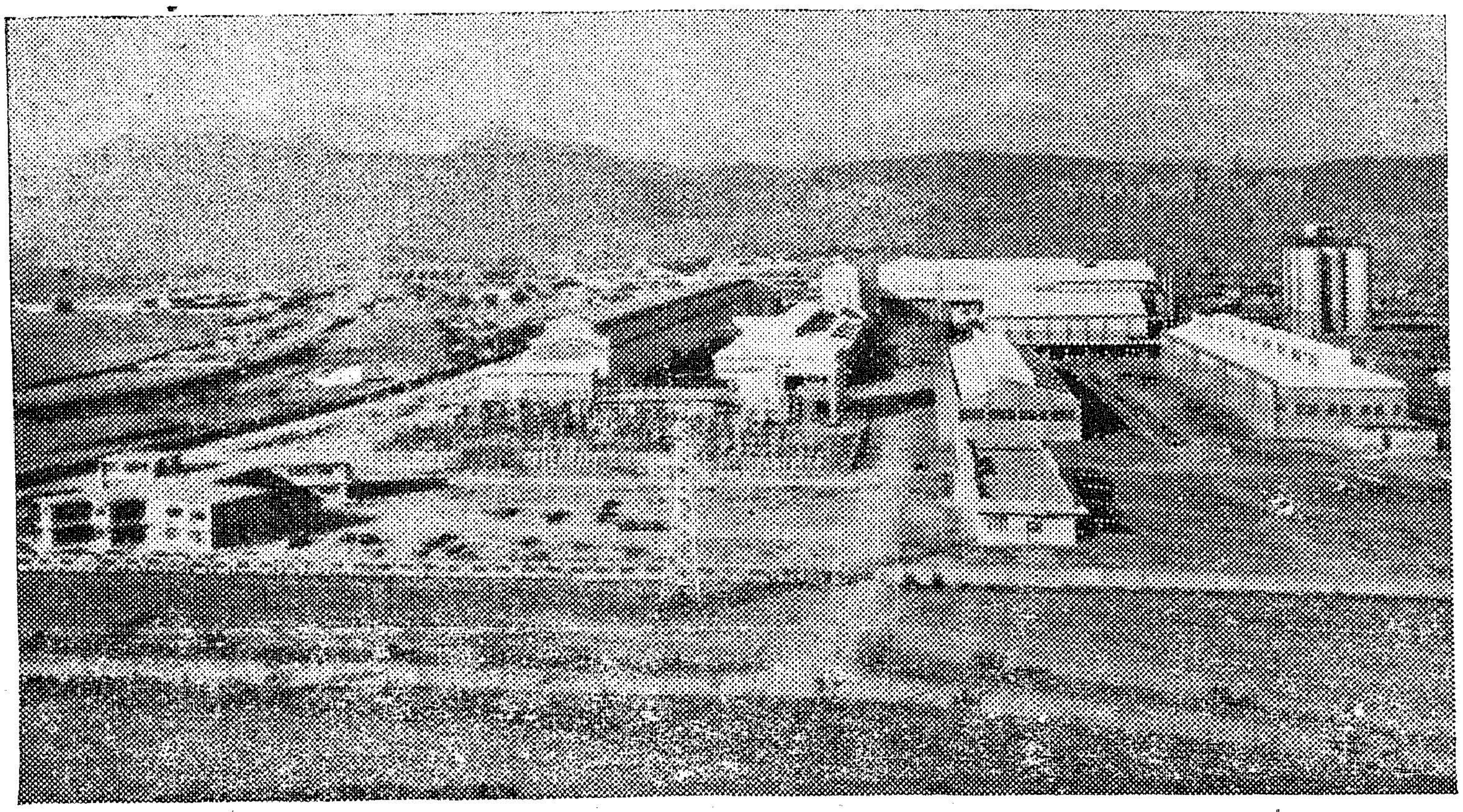
The impression created is that while most of the teenagers seem to take a live interest in politics, including controversial party politics, they are not inclined to own up that they do so.

Teenagers and Religious Activities

Absence of any coherent system of values to replace the old certainties and beliefs have left the teenagers in the lurch, without an ideal standard of life to adhere to, for an ethical code based on religion is no longer acceptable to the present generation with no substitute taking its place. As a result a sense of drift and purposelessness is evident even among the children of well-to-do families. Viewing from this angle, we find that the opinion expressed by the teenagers in respect of religious worship is very encouraging. Of the total 469 teenagers interviewed, 354 of them are in the habit of going to temples, churches, mosques as often as possibile, at least once in a month and the rest 115 do not go at all. As regards daily worship, 229 of the teenagers said that they spend more than half an hour daily, whereas 206 of them expressed that they do not spend any specific time for daily worship, apart from participating in the compulsory prayer assembly in the institutions. Thirty-four students did not give any opinion.

IMPRESSIVE PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS

By any reckoning what we have been able to achieve in the last 10 or 12 years, in terms of agricultural and industrial production, or in terms of the building up of infrastructure facilities is remarkable. Industrial production doubled between 1951 and 1961 ; and agricultural production went up by over 40 per cent. The generation of electricity has gone up nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ times. The freight carried by the railways is now more than twice that of 1951. The proportion of school-going children in the age-group of 6 to 11 was a little over 40 per cent in 1950–51 and is estimated to be about 75 per cent in 1965–66. The overall expectation of life at birth has gone up from 32 years in the decade ending 1951 to 45 years according to the 1961 census. These are certainly impressive achievements.



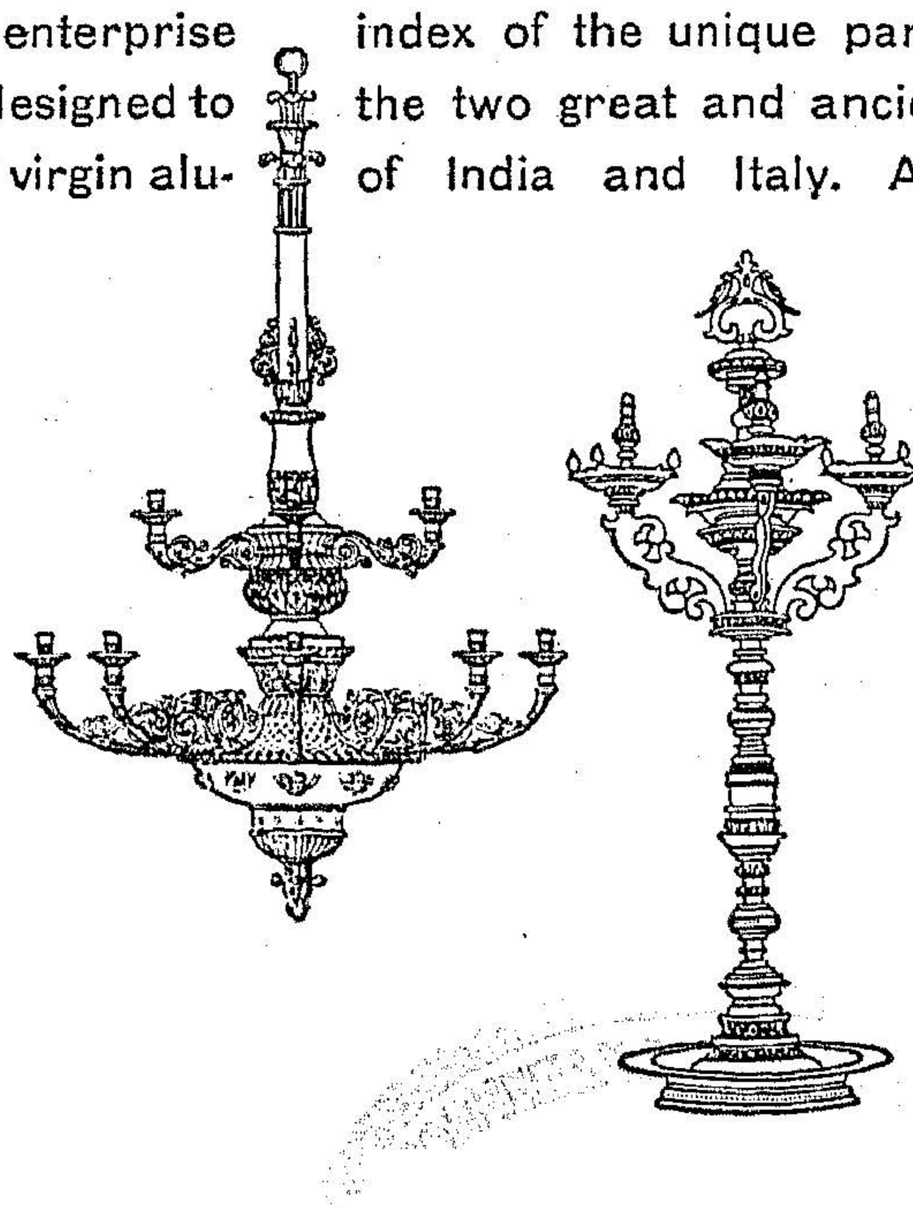
THE PRESIDENT COMMISSIONS THE MADRAS ALUMINIUM PROJECT

A UNIQUE INDO-ITALIAN INDUSTRIAL PARTNERSHIP

The latest addition to the growing industrial complex at Mettur, on the banks of the Cauvery, is the factory of the Madras Aluminium Co. which the President of India inaugurated on July 2, 1965.

This factory, the biggest enterprise in the South, is presently designed to produce 10,000 tonnes of virgin aluminium metal from the Company's bauxite mines at Yercaud on the Shevaroys. Plans for doubling the production at an early date are through.

This Rs. 14 crore Project is a visible index of the unique partnership of the two great and ancient peoples of India and Italy. Apart from providing technical assistance Soc. Montecatini of Milan, Italy, have a substantial shareholding in the Company. Their collaboration and participation interested the Italian people to subscribe to a loan floated by the financing Bank of Italy, MEDIOBANCA, to enable the purchase of equipment and machinery from abroad.



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